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"Let 'em surround me! I feel wolfish to-day and I think it'll do me good to let off some of my extra steam among 'em."

LIGHTNING JO;

The Terror of the Santa Fe Trail.

A TALE OF THE PRESENT DAY.

BY CAPT. J. F. C. ADAMS,

Author of "Old Grizzly, the Bear-Tamer," "The Phantom Princess," etc.

Vol. III.

THE CRY FOR HELP!

"To THE COMMANDANT AT FORT ADAMS:
"For God's sake send us help at once. We have been fighting the Comanches for two days; half our men are killed and wounded, and we can not hold out much longer. But we have women and children with us, and we shall fight to the last and die game. Send help withten the have's delay or it; all true. out an hour's delay, or it's all up.

J. T. SHIELDS."

Covered with dust, and reeking with sweat, with bloody nostril and dilated eye, the black mustang thundered up to the gate of the fort, staggered as if drunken, and then with a wheezing moan, shivered from nose to hoof, and with an awful cry, like that of a dying person, his flanks heaved and he dropped dead to the ground, his lithe, sinewy rider leaping from the saddle, just in time to escape being crushed to

Scarcely less frightful and alarming was the appearance of the horseman, so covered with dust and grime, that no one could tell whether he was Indian, African or Cauca- it.

sian; but, whoever he was, he showed that he was alive to the situation, by running straigth through the gate of the stockades, into the parade-ground, where pausing in a bewildered sort of way, he glanced hurriedly around, and then shouted:

"Where's the commandant? Quick! some one tell me!"

Colonel Greaves chanced to be standing at that moment in converse with a couple of his officers, and upon hearing the cry, he moved toward the stranger with a rapid tread, but with a certain dignified deliberation that always marked his movements. Knowing him to be the man for whom he was searching, the messenger did not wait for him to approach, but fairly bounded to-ward him, and thrusting a piece of dirty paper, scrawled over with lead pencil, look-ed imploringly in his face, while he read the

And as the colonel read, his brows knitted and his face paled. He felt the urgency of most utter impossibility of complying with

the dust-begrimed courier.

prompt reply. "How far away are your friends?"

"How far away are your friends?"

"Forty miles as the crow flies, and I have never drawn rein since my horse started, till he fell dead just outside the gate."

"How many men are there in this fix?"

"There were twenty men, and a dozen women and children. When I left, about half that number were alive, and whether any are still living. God only knows. I any are still living, God only knows;

colonel, again glancing at the paper, and involuntarily sighing, for despite his schooling upon the frontier, he felt keenly the anguish of this wail, that was borne to him across the sad prairie. "Not as bad as that, I trust; for if they have held out two days, we may hope that they are able to hold out still longer. But how is it that you succeeded in reaching us, when they could

Feeling that some explanation was ex-pected of him, the messenger spoke hur-

riedly, but as calmly as possible:
"Twenty of us were conveying a party of women and children—the families of mer-chants and officers at Santa Fe—through the Indian country, on our way to that city, when the Comanches came down on us, in a swarm of hundreds, and finding there was swarm of hundreds, and finding there was no escaping a fight, we ran our wagons in a circle, shut the women and horses inside, and then it seemed as if hell was let loose upon us. Yelling, shouting, screeching, charging was kept up all that day into the night. We picked off the red devils with the more we killed the

"When was this written?" he asked, of the dust-begrimed courier.

"At daybreak this morning," was the compt reply.

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By this time quite a group had gathered about the messenger, enchained by the thrilling tale he told, the truth of which was so eloquently attested by his manner and

appearance.

"But you haven't told us how you got here," reminded the colonel, as the man paused for a moment. "You have succeeded at least in insuring your safety."

"We made up our minds about midnight last night that something of the kind had to be done, as it was our only hope. Two of our men tried to steal through, crawling on hands and knees, but both were caught within a hundred yards of the camp—one shot dead, and the other so badly tomahawked, that he died within an hour of getting back to us. So I told Shields to let me have his mustang, which is the fleetest creature on the plains, and I would either get through or do as the others did. So, just about daybreak, I crammed that slip of paper in the side of my shoe, stretched out flat on night. We picked off the red devils with every shot, but the more we killed the in the side of my shoe, stretched out flat on the mustang's back and give him the word.

Away he went like a thunderbolt, with the rifles cracking all about my ears, and the Comanches thundering down upon me like so many bloodhounds. I felt more than one bullet in my legs, and I knew the horse was hurt pretty bad—it didn't hinder his going, and the noble fellow kept straight along till he brought me here. But you act as if you didn't know me."

"Know you?" repeated the amazed colonel. "I never saw you before."

CHAPTER II. THE ANSWER.

The powdered, begrimed face was seen to expand into something like a grin, and raising his hand, the courier literally scraped the dust from his cheeks and eyebrows, and then, as he removed his hat, a general excla-

"Jim Gibbons! is it you?" called out the commandant, as he recognized a man who had been employed at his fort a year be-fore. "I thought your voice had a familiar sound, but then your own mother would not

sound, but then your own mother would not have recognized you."

"But come," added Gibbons, moving about uneasily, "we'll talk over this matter some other time. I've brought you the message, colonel," he added, making a graceful military salute. "I had heard in St. Louis that you had been sent to another command, else I would have known whom to ask for. Now, can you help us or not?"

The officer folded his arms behind his back and walked slowly over the paradeground, signifying by a nod of his head, that Gibbons should do the same.

"I must help you," he said, in a low

"I must help you," he said, in a low voice; "such a call as that can not pass unheeded. But, Jim, you see my fix. We ought to have a full regiment to garrison this fort, and the Government allows me but six hundred. Two hundred of these more one account up toward the mountained. men are on a scout up toward the mountains, and won't be in till cark. Do you know there is some reason to fear an attack upon the fort, from a combination of several tribes under the direction of the infer-

mal Comanche, Swico-Cheque?"
"Why he is at the head of the devils that have our friends walled in. I know him too well, and have seen him a dozen times, circling around on his horse, yelling like a thousand panthers, and firing about a dozen

shots a minute. I have fired at him five or six times, but never grazed him once."

"Well, I think it is more than likely that we shall have an attack from him. Now, you know something of life on the plains; tell me how many men you need to bring your friends into the fort." "We ought to have a hundred, at the

least."
"You ought to have five hundred, at the smallest calculation. I tell you the Indians in this part of the country are among the best fighters and hunters in the world, and if I send a hundred men out into the country, where they are sure to come against old Swico and his band, the chances are that they will all be served as were Colonel Fet-terman's men at Fort Phil Kearney, a month or two ago. You know that over a hundred of them went out, and never a one was

ever seen alive again."
"But, if I understand that matter right," replied Gibbons, who was becoming impatient and uneasy at the delay, "these men were entrapped and massacred; I don't think there is any likelihood of that in our think there is any likelihood of that in our case. But, colonel, pardon me; I wish to know your decision, either the one way or the other, at once. If you conclude that you can not spare a hundred men to go forty miles away to help this party, then let me have a fresh horse. I will return, sail in and go under with the rest."

And Gibbons attested the earnestness of what he said, by starting to move away; but Colonel Greaves caught his arm.

"Hold on! you shall have the men you need. I have been trying ever since I heard your story to decide whether I ought to risk the safety of a hundred men to save one-tenth that number; but I can't think. It seems to me that I hear the wailing cry of those women and children coming over

of those women and children coming over the prairie, and if I should turn my back upon them, their voices and moans would upon them, their voices and moans would follow me ever afterward in my waking and sleeping hours. Yes, Jim, you shall have the hundred men. I will lead them myself, and we will make hot work in that gulch before we get through."

The colonel, having made his decision, did not hesitate for a moment. Turning sharply upon his heel, he beckoned to his adjutant, and gave him peremptory orders to make ready a hundred men for a scout into the Indian country. They were to be

into the Indian country. They were to be armed with rifle, revolver and cavalry swords, and to be mounted on the best horses at the fort.

As he turned about to say a few words to

As he turned about to say a few words to Gibbons, he saw the tears making furrows down his grimy cheeks. He attempted to speak, but for a few seconds was unable to articulate. Taking the hand of the colonel, he finally said, in a choking voice:

"I thank you, colonel, and God grant that this may not be too late. Oh, if you could have seen those pleading faces of the women, those cries of the helpless children for one swallow of water, the dead bodies of the men, that we had drawn in behind the wagons out of reach of the red-skins, and the screeching devils all around, you would send your whole garrison to their rescue. Where is Lightning Jo?"

"He went out with the scouting-party this morning, and that is what caused me to hesitate about sending the company too

to hesitate about sending the company to the help of your friends. I always feel

tolerably comfortable when I know that he

is at the head of the men."
While the bustle of hurried preparation was going on within the fort, Gibbons accompanied the colonel to his lodgings, where he washed the dust from his person, where he washed the dust from his person, partook of water and refreshments, and explained more in detail the particulars of the misfortune of his friends. He was equally desirous that the wonderful scout, Lightning Jo, should lead the party, as he was a host of himself, and having lived from earliest childhood in the south-west, he was as thorough an Indian as the great chieftain Swico-Cheque himself, and the daring Comanches held him in greater terror than any other living personage. other living personage.

But the case was one that admitted of no delay—even if it was certain that Jo would be in at the end of an hour. Half that time might decide the fate of the little Spartan band struggling so bravely in Dead Man's Gulch, and the release of the beleaguered ones was now the question above all others. It required but a very short time for the party to complete their preparations. Out

party to complete their preparations. Out of the seemingly inextricable confusion of stamping horses, and men running hither and thither, all at once appeared full one hundred men, mounted, armed and officered precisely as they had been directed.

An orderly stood holding the horse of Colonel Greaves, until he was ready to

mount, while another was at Gibbons' dis-

The next moment the two latter had leaped into their saddles, and placing themselves at the head of the cavalcade, rode out of the stockade upon the open prairie, which had scarcely been done, when a new and most gratifying surprise awaited them. The march was instantly halted, and the face of Colonel Greaves and of Gibbons lit up with

CHAPTER III.

LIGHTNING JO.

THAT which arrested the attention of the company riding out of the stockade of Fort Adams, was the sight of another party of horsemen coming through a range of hills about half a mile distant, one glance only being sufficient to identify them as the scouts already referred to as being under the guidance and leadership of the great western celebrity, Lightning Jo.

"Now, that's what I call lucky," exclaimed Colonel Greaves. "Jo is the very man of all others that we need."

The horsemen rode down the declivity at an easy gallop, and shortly reined up in front of the stockade, with a graceful salute, and an action that indicated that he await ed the commands of his superior officer.

The scouts, or hunters, had turned their time to good account, as was shown by a number of buffalo carcasses, or rather the choice portions of such, supported across the saddles of their animals; the appearance of the beasts, too, indicated that many of them had been subjected to the hardest kind of

A few words explained to Lightning Jo the business about to be undertaken, and he at once assumed his position as leader of the company that had just prepared to start, the colonel withdrawing into the fort again, where it was his manifest duty to remain, while the desperate attempt to relieve the beleaguered party in Dead Man's Gulch was being made.

The scout did not take a fresh horse, and when pressed to do so, he declared that his mustang was as capable of a fifty miles tramp, as he was upon the morning he started upon the hunt from which he had just

'Come, boys! business is business." said he, in his crisp, sharp tone, as his steed carried him by one or two bounds to the head of the cavalcade he was to lead. Gibbons, keep yer place alongside me, and

yer can explain as we ride along."

And as the company of brave men gallop to the southward on their errand of mercy, each man a hero, and all with set teeth and an unalterable determination in their hearts to do all that mortal man could do to save the despairing little band that had sent its wail of anguish across the prairie, we will improve the occasion by glancing at the remarkable man who acted as their leader.

Lightning Jo had gained his appellation from the wonderful quickness of his movements, and his almost miraculous skill as a His celerity of movement was incredible, while his equally astonishing strength excited the wonder of the most famous bordermen of the day. It was a wellestablished fact that Lightning Jo, a couple of years before, at Fort Laramie, had been forced into a personal encounter with a badgering pugilist, who was on his return to the States from California, and who had the reputation of being one of the most scientific hitters that had ever entered the prize ring, and who on the occasion referred to was so completely polished off by Jo, that he lay a month at the fort before he

recovered from his injuries. It was said, and there was every reason to believe it, that he was capable of running miles with the speed of the swiftest mus tang of the prairie; that he had traversed the Llano Estacado back and forth, times without number, on foot, passing through the very heart of the Comanche country, without any attempt to disguise himself, or conceal his identity in any way; and yet there was not a mark upon his person to attest the dangers through which he had passed scathless and unharmed.

His horsemanship was perfect in its way, and no living Comanche—the most wonderful riders of the Western Continent—had been known to exceed, and very few to equal him. For the amusement of those gathered at some of the posts which he had visited, he had ridden his mustang at full speed and bare-back, throwing himself from one side to the other, and firing from beneath the neck or belly of the animal, picking up his hat from the earth when galloping at the same headlong rate, striking a match upon a stone on the ground and carrying the blaze lighted in his hand. He had thrown the lasso, with such skill, as to catch the hoof of the plunging buffalo, and then by a flirt of the rope, flung the kicking brute flat upon his side, as the daring rider thundered past, and slapped his hat in the eyes of the terrified animal. He could fling the coil with the unerring certainty of a rifle-shot, and would manipulate the rope into as many fantastical convolutions as a

Chinese conjurer. His prowess with the rifle was equally marked, and the tales of his achievements with his favorite weapon were so incredi-ble in many instances, that we would not be believed were we to repeat them. He carried a long, murderous-looking weapon, the mountings of which were of solid silver, and

had been presented to him by one of his many friends, whom he had been the in-

strument of saving.
At the home of his old mother at Santa Fe-the only living relative he had upon earth—he had rifles, swords, guns and every manner of weapon, of the most costly and valuable nature, that had been given him by grateful friends. His revered parent during his absence was literally overwhelmed with attentions and kindnesses by virtue of her relationship to Lightning Jo, the scout and guide who had proved such a blessing to the settlers of, and travelers through the

The hero was about thirty years of age, slim and tall to attenuation, with high cheek-bones, eyes of midnight blackness that snapped fire when he he was roused, and long hair, as stiff, wiry and black as the tail of his mustang. His countenance was swarthy, and with a little "touching up" he might have deceived Swico himself into the belief that he was one of his own warriors. was the more easy as Jo spoke the Coman-che tongue with the fluency of a genuine member of that warlike tribe; but he scorn ed such suggestions when made to him, declaring that he was able to take care of himself anywhere and in any crowd, no matter who were his friends or who were his enemies, an assertion which no one cared to dispute in a practical way.

Looking at his profile as he rode along

over the prairie at a sweeping gallop, it would have been seen that his nose was large, thin and sharp, the chin rather prominent, and the lips thin. The mouth was rather large, and the upper lip was shaded by a thin, silky mustache of the same jetty hue as his eyes. The rest of his face was totally devoid of beard, except a little furze in front of his ears. He had never used the razor, nor did he expect to do so.

Of course he sat his horse like a centaur, and, as he rode along, those keen, restless eyes of his wandered and roved from side to side, almost unconsciously on his part, as he was ever on the alert for the first appearance of danger. Such in brief were a few of the noticeable points of the great scout Lightning Jo, who was a leader of the party of rescue, and who is to play such a prominent part in the thrilling events we are about to narrate.

As he rode beside Gibbons, whose anxiety was of the most intense character, and who could not avoid giving frequent ex-

who could not avoid giving frequent expression to it, the scout at length said:

"Just stop that 'ere fretting of yours, now, Gib; 'cause it don't pay; don't you see we're all stretching out on that 'ere forty miles, just as fast as horse-flesh kin stand it? Wal, that being so, where's the use of fuming?"

"I know, Jo, but how can a person help it when he knows not whether his friends

it when he knows not whether his friends are dead or alive? There is philosophy in your advice about whining and complaining, and it reminds me of one of the members of the party—a young lady, whose disposition had something heavenly in it."

"Who was she?" asked the scout, in an

indifferent way. "Her name, I believe, was Manning-Lizzie Manning-

Lizzie Manning—"
"What!" exclaimed Lightning Jo, almost bounding from his saddle, "is she there, in that infarnal place? How in the name of Heaven did she get there?"
"She was one of the party that left St. Louis, and of course shared our dangers the same as all." the same as all."

"The sweetest, purtiest, best little piece of calico that has been heard," repeated the scout to himself. "God save her, for she's worth all the rest. Come, boys," he called out to those behind him, "ride your hosses as you never rid 'em afore. I'd dash through fire water spacks beingstone and blages to fire, water, smoke, brimstone and blazes, to save that gal!"

CHAPTER IV.

THE PARTY IN DEAD MAN'S GULCH.

LEAVING Lightning Jo and his party riding at a tremendous rate over the prairie to the rescue of the sorely beleaguered com pany in Dead Man's Gulch, we must precede him for awhile to that terrible spot where one of the most dreadful tragedies

of the many there enacted was going on.

The party, numbering over thirty, twothirds of whom were hardened, bronzed
hunters, had been driven tumultuously into the place by the sudden appearance of the notorious Swico Cheque and his band, where they had barely time to throw their men and horses into the roughest attitude of defense, when they were called upon to fight the screeching Comanches, in one of the most murderous and desperate hand-to-hand encounters in which they had ever

Our readers have already learned, from the hurried words of Gibbons, some-thing of the experience of the beleaguered whites during the two days and nights immediately following the halt, and preceding his own departure, and it is not our purpose to weary them and harrow their feelings by a recital of the horrible incidents of that stubborn fight.

When Jim Gibbons, hugging the neck of his mustang, dashed at full speed through the lines of the Comanches, he left behind him ten able-bodied men, or, more properly, ten who were still able to load, aim and fire their rifles. More than that number lay scattered around, among the wagons, on the ground, in every position, killed by the bul-lets of the wonderful red riders and rifle-

The wagons, as is the practice at such times, had been run together into an irregular circle, one being placed in the center (as the safest spot), into which the women and children were tumbled, and where, for the time, they were safe from the bullets that were rattling like sleet around them, and striking down their brave defenders upon every hand.

This done, the men devoted themselves to keeping back the swarming devils, that made a perfect realization of pandemonium as they circled about the doomed band.

In what way Dead Man's Gulch gained its name no one can tell with any certainty, but most probably from the number of massacres and deaths that had taken place within its horrid precincts. It was simply a hollow, somewhat resembling the driedup bed of a small lake, and, instead of being properly a gulch, was more like a basin, so that to enter it from any direction, one was

compelled to descend quite a slope.

The trail which the party were following led directly through the center of this place, it being by far the most feasible route, in spite of the ascent and descent, on account of the broken nature of the country both to

bones, as if indeed it were the site of some ancient catacomb, that had been rent in twain by some convulsion of nature.

A slight examination would have shown that these bones were those of horses and human beings, telling in most eloquent lan-guage to the beleaguered whites that the fate which threatened them was that which had overtaken many a one before them.

Dead Man's Gulch indeed was a favorite

point for the Comanches, who were always roving the prairies in search of such bands as these, and it was consequently well known and dreaded by all who were compelled to make the journey; and the scene to which we now direct the attention of the reader was, as we have shown, but a repetition of what had been enacted there time

and again without number. The first day's fight was especially destructive upon the horses, it being found almost impossible to shelter them from the aim of the Comanches. As a consequence, the second morning found but few of these indispensable requisites in a journey of this kind. Those that had escaped, however, were secured and sheltered in such a way as to keep them from the other bullets that

endeavored to seek them out. Captain Shields, a sturdy borderer, and a man who had crossed the plains a score of times, suspected from the first that the only possible hope for his company was for some one to get through the Comanche lines to Fort Adams, and that was the reason why he so carefully protected the two

or three remaining mustangs from death.
This, as a matter of course, was the last desperate resort, and was only to be at-tempted when it was absolutely certain that nothing else could avail.

His first hope was that by a determined and deadly resistance he could convince the red-skins that it would not pay to keep up the contest, for the warlike Comanches have the reputation of possessing discretion as well as bravery; but, in the present case, they certainly were warranted in concluding they had the game in their own hands, and, despite the murderous replies of the whites, they refused to be driven away, and kept up a dropping fire, circling round and round the hills above, and preventing any attempts of the whites to move out.

For some time Captain Shields and his men fired from behind their horses and wagons, but they soon improved on this, and taking their positions in the wagons them-selves, found that they were quite well able to pick off their assailants, while they were tolerably well protected from the return fire, the red-skins being compelled to fire more

And lying in this posture, they were com pelled to see the remaining horses shot down, excepting the single one upon which Jim Gibbons made his escape.

And thus the fight-of itself one of the most bitter and sanguinary among the thou-sand and one of the West-raged, and as it raged there were exhibited some of the most daring performances upon both sides, and among them all was no loftier nor higher-souled courage than that of our heroine—the young and beautiful Lizzie Manning of Santa Fe.

CHAPTER V. THE PARTY OF RESCUE.

THE sun was past the meridian, when the hundred men, under the command of Lightning Jo, left Fort Adams and struck off in almost a due southerly direction.

It required sharp riding to reach Dead Man's Gulch by nightfall; but all had strong hopes of doing so, as it was summertime, and a goodly number of hours yet remained at their command, while their mustangs were toughened and fleet, and they were now put to the full test of their en-

Lightning Jo knew very well the location of the fatal gulch, and although he did not say as much, yet he had very little hope of reaching it in time to be of any earthly use to the poor wretches cramped up there and fighting so desperately for life. Swice could not fail to know the mean-

ing of the flight of Gibbons through his lines. He must know that he was making all haste to Fort Adams for succor, and that, if he did not speedily complete the awful business he had taken in hand, without much longer delay, the chances were that he would be disputed and compelled to fight a third party.

The prairie continued quite level, with dry grass that did not prevent a cloud of dust arising from the hoofs of the horses. The plain was broken here and there by ridges and hills, some of the latter of considerable elevation. Between these the rescuing parties were compelled frequently to pass, some of them being so close together that the thought of an ambuscade was instantly suggested to the mind of every one. But Jo was not the man to go it blind in-

to any contrivance that the red-skins might set to entrap him, and his practiced eye made certain that all was right before he exposed his brave men to such danger.

He was rather expecting some flank movement upon the part of his old enemy, but he was disposed to believe that, whatever plan he adopted, he would not "try it on" until the whites reached the vicinity of Dead Man's Gulch.

"Mebbe he's got things fixed to tumble us in there too," he thought to himself; "and mebbe ef he has, he'll find his flint will miss fire."

The company galloped steadily forward until something like three-fourths of the distance was passed, and the sun was low in the west. They were riding along at the same rattling pace, all on the alert for signs of their enemies, and they were just "rising" a swell of moderate elevation, flanked on both sides by still higher hills, when the peremptory voice of Lightning Jo was heard, ordering a halt. The command was obeyed with extraor-

dinary precision, and every man knew as if instinct that trouble was at hand. Naturally enough their eyes were turned toward the hills, as if expecting to see a band of Comanches swarming down upon them, and in imagination they heard the blood-curdling yells, as they poured tumul-tuously over the elevations, exulting in the work of death at their hands.

But all was stil, nor could they detect any thing to warrant fear, although the manner of Lightning Jo indicated clearly that such was the case

He did not keep them long in suspense.

"Some of the Comanches are there," remarked Lightning Jo, in his offhand manner; "whether old Swico himself is among of the broken nature of the country both to the north and south.

Dead Man's Gulch, occupying an area of several acres, was strewn and covered with 'em or not, I can't say till I go forward and find out. Keep your guns and pistols ready, for there may be a thousand of 'em down on ye afore ye know it.' And with this parting salutation, or rather warning, the scout started his horse on a gallop, straight toward the rise, as though he purposed to ride directly between the hills already mentioned. But seemingly on the very point of entering, he turned his mustang sharply to one side, and in-stead of passing between, circled around

the hill upon his right.

All this time he sat as erect and proud in his saddle as though he were approaching the stockade of the fort, which he had made his head-quarters for so many

The cavalrymen, as a matter of course, scrutinized his movements with the in-

tensest interest.
"How easy for a stray shot to tumble him out of his saddle!" was the reflection of nearly every one watching the daring This action of Lightning Jo speedily carried him over a portion of the ridge, and out of sight of the horsemen, who could

only surmise what was going on beyond.
But the sharp, pistol-like crack of a rifle, within five minutes of the time he had vanished from view, proved that the fears of Lightning Jo were well founded, and that the drama had already opened in dead

Indeed it had. The scout had detected all-convincing signs of the presence of his old enemies upon the hill, and the simple artifice of turning aside, at the last moment, had given him the advantage of flanking

his foes, and coming upon them from alto-gether an unexpected quarter.

As he passed over the ridge, Jo saw about twenty Comanche Indians sitting quietly upon their horses, and in a position that indicated that they were composedly expecting the appearance of their prey from another quarter. Instead of turning to flee, the scout saluted them in his cus-tomary manner by bringing up his rifle, and boring a hole through the skull of one of the astonished red-skins, before the rest really suspected what was going on.

"Tahoo—oo!" called out Jo, as he witnessed the success of his shot, and he followed it up with another yell that was pe-culiarly his own, and which was so impos-sible of imitation that he was known by it from Arizona to Mexico.

The Comanches were not men of wood to sit still upon their animals, and remain targets for one of the most skillful riflemen

Identifying their assailant by means of his yell, they instantly scattered, as if a bombshell had landed among them, and hey scampered down the other side adjoining hill, and out of sight of Jo, carrying their fallen comrade with them.

This, it would seem, ought to have satisfied the scout, but it did not. He suspected that a larger party of Indians was in the neighborhood, and determined to make sure before returning to his men.

The actions of the Comanches seemed to

indicate that they were about making an attempt to surround him, and he made ready to guard against it.

"Let 'em surround me! I feel wolfish to-day, and I think it'll do me good to let

off some of my extra steam among 'em."

He gazed furtively over his shoulder, nevertheless, for he had no wish to be taken off his guard, in such a desperate en-counter as this was certain to prove, in case collision occurred.

His mustang stepped very carefully, with his head raised and his ears pricked, for he fully felt the delicacy of the situation, and knew that at any moment they were liable to be enveloped by a horde of their ene-

The sagacity of the horse was the first to give notice of the approach of danger. He was stepping stealthily along, his senses on e alert, when he suddenly paused, with a

At the same instant, Lightning Jo caught a peculiar sound, as if made by the grating of a horse's hoof upon the gravel, and he turned his head with the quickness of light-

There they were, sure enough! (To be continued.)

Tracked to Death: THE LAST SHOT.

BY CAPT. MAYNE REID, AUTHOR OF "HELPLESS HAND," "LONE RANCHE," "SOALP HUNTERS," "WHITE CHIEF," ETC.

> CHAPTER LXXXVIII. A CHANGE OF COSTUME.

AFTER performing their ablutions in the creek, the prairie pirates entered the tents, therein to finish their toilet.

They soon re-appeared, one after another, in a complete change of costume; no two alike. Some wore the backwoods huntingshirt of buck-skin, with fringed cap and skirt, leggins to correspond. Others were garbed as Mexican rancheros, in velveteen jacket, calzoneras, serape, and waist-scarf. Still others were dressed in the sky-blue cottonade blouse and pantaloon of the Louisiana creole; while some, of less tasty exterior, had coats of the homespun copperas-dyed cloth of Tennessee, or the gray-blue "jeans" of Kentucky.

Their head wear exhibited a like fanciful variety; caps and hats of all sorts and shapes; the former of coon-skin, cat-skin, and cloth; the latter of felt, wool, panama, and beaver—among them the black-glaze, broad brim of Mexico.

Borlasse reappeared in his rough blanket coat, belted and booted as when seen in the streets of Natchitoches.

Conceit of personal appearance was not among the weaknesses of the Texan robber chief, who, in this respect, had no affinity with either of his Italian prototypes, Fra Diavolo or Mazzaroni. But, if not so polite or fashionably picturesque, the Transatlan tic bandit was quite as formidable as they and could stop a traveler and cut his throat

as effectively as either.

With their change of garb the prairie pirates also made some change in their mode of armament. Their guns, pistols and knives were retained; while the spears, tom-ahawks and lows were abandoned. These, collected into a heap, with the cast Indian diguises and other insignia of the savage, were carried into a cavern in the cliff close by, and there secreted with due care. As Borlasse said, they might be wanted again.

bers now turned their attention to things During a whole night and day they had been sustaining themselves on drink, of which they had a plentiful supply—the pro-

The transformation scene ended, the rob-

ceeds of a former raid down the Colorado. They had brought nothing away from Dupre's wine-bins, the barrels of silver being

The appetite of hunger was now keen upon them, and they had the wherewith to sa-tisfy it. There were skilled hunters among them, and several haunches of venison, with a bear's ham or two, were seen hanging from the branches of the pecan trees, be-

yond reach of lynx or coyote.

Some of the band, accustomed to act as caterers and cooks, had already commenced preparing these for the spit; and the choic-est pieces were soon frizzling in the blaze of

a huge hickory fire.

For their culinary operations they found a valuable helpmate in their yellow-skinned captive. Jupiter, like all of his race, knew something of the science of gastronomy, being especially skilled in barbecuing.

He seemed so zealous in his new vocation,

and altogether so contented with his captivity, that his captors soon ceased to look up-on him as a prisoner, and began to regard him as an associate. He had told them of his being Clancy's slave; hinted at harsh treatment; showed them a scarred back to prove it; and professed himself highly pleased at the circumstance that had separated him from his master. In short, Jupiter announced his readiness to become a member of the freebooting fraternity—a useful, obsequious servant, if that should be the conditions required of him. Accepted as such, he entered upon his duties con amore,

and with an alacrity that delighted them. They did not think of questioning his professions of fidelity. An escaped slave, there was nothing strange in such conver-

Dinner, drinking and smoking occupied their time, until the sun sunk behind the crest of the cliffs, and the crepusculous light, stealing over the valley, empurpled the foliage of the pecan-trees.

While giving way to sensuous indulgence
—in short, getting drunk—there was one
among their number who kept sober.

Borlasse—big, lumbering brute as he was
—was, nevertheless, gifted with a fair share

of common sense, along with any quantity of low cunning. A rude strategist in his way, he had brain to conceive and courage to carry out his conceptions. Otherwise he could not have been the acknowledged leader of twenty Texan frontiermen, all of them, as himself, outlaws, and most having hands that had been imbrued in blood.

Ever since recrossing the San Saba he had felt ill at ease. What had become of Quantrell, and the other man with the captive girls? He thought less of it then; supposing he would find them at the ren-But they were not there, and

where could they have gone?

For a time he was disposed to think Quantrell himself might be a traitor. Had he, too, discovered that Clancy was still alive; and, no longer in fear of the law, determined to separate himself from the band—an association with which he had become leagued through sheer necessity, in the hour

of dread desperation?
Had Quantrell encountered Clancy during

the night, and been killed by him?

Certainly the two men could not have met and again parted without one killing the other. Borlasse was sufficiently au fait to their feud to feel sure of this. But if Richard Darke were now dead,

Clancy would have gone off with the cap-tives. He would not have been found carelessly straying, hunting, as he himself said, when surrounded and taken prisoner.

Jim Borlasse now regretted not having

put his prisoner to torture, and forced him to a fuller confession. He reproached him-self for not having done so. And while his men were carelessly carousing, he was striding among the tents; now and again ooking anxiously along toward the gorge, all the time muttering words of dissatisfaction, commingled with

CHAPTER LXXXIX.

A DISOBEDIENT BAND. For over an hour the captain of the free-booters strode through the encampment like a tiger in its cage. Ever and anon he stood upon its edge, gazing into the darkness, and listening for the sound of hoofs.

The impatience under which he chafed was of no common kind. For, brute though he was, both in body and soul, without one iota of sentiment, he yet loved. True, it was animal passion, of the lowest, impurest kind. But it was also of the strongest; at the moment so overpowering him, that he would have willingly surrendered his share of the silver taken from Louis Dupre to have possessed himself of Dupre's sweet-

heart And to reflect that he had been in possession of and let her so easily escape! For he now began to think that this would be

While thus chafing, a thought came to his relief. Clancy might still be alive? What if he, Borlasse, should go back to the place where he had buried him; promise to release him on the condition of his telling whether he had encountered Darke; at the same time threaten torture and death if he should refuse to confess the truth. It would be a ten-mile ride; but what of that? He could not sleep without having satisfaction of some kind. He must know whether

Darke was still true or a traitor. He had almost determined on this course when another thought occurred to himsomething preliminary. He would first confess the mulatto, and, if need be, put

Strange he had not thought of this before! It was not too late; and, gliding among the tents, he looked for the man of mixed

He found him in company with another sang-melee of very different mixture—the half-Spaniard, half-Indian, Fernand. The two were hobnobbing over a calabash of corn whisky, fraternizing as if they had been born brothers.

Borlasse, separating them, drew the milatto aside, and, when beyond ear-shot of his convice, put him to confession

He opened the dialogue in a friendly tone, and with coaxing confidence.

The man confessed he knew nothing of any Phil Quantrell, and no more of a Richard Darke. He never heard of either. He was Mass' Clancy's slave, who had lately bought him. Mass' Clancy had just come to Texas to join the colony of Colonel Armstrong. He had been attending on his young master, out for a hunt—that was all young master, out for a hunt—that was all. Jupiter's tale was plausible enough. It had been suggested by a caution Clancy had hastily communicated, just before the

The mulatto was a man of no ordinary mind. It had been his misfortune to be born a slave, and it was his superior intellect, chafing at the ignoble lot, that had made him a fugitive. The exercise of this intellect had already enabled him to mislead the prairie pirates, making them be-lieve he was contented to remain with them

While ostensibly engrossed with his new duties, he had been eagerly listening to their conversation. From it he had gathered enough to give him an idea of what they had done to his fellow-prisoner; and he was not without hope of being able to escape from the robbers' camp in time to re-

Thus hoping, he stuck to his simple story, a Colt's revolver held to his head, its cold steel touching his tawny skin.

The test satisfied Borlasse, who gave over confessing him. The sun was now down, the moon up;

but no Phil Quantrell—no captives!

The chief of the prairie pirates, at first only impatient at being so long kept from having white arms around him, was becoming anxious and alarmed.

Calling his associates from their cups, he communicated his apprehensions, and proposed that a party should go back over the olain in search of their missing comrades.

But the robbers were now too far gone in drink. Their chief no longer commanded them. They did not care either for Phil Quantrell, or the captives committed to his charge. And as to the danger of their being pursued by the scurvy colonists, why, let them pursue if they chose. There was n't the slightest likelihood of such greenn't the slightest kikelihood of such greenhorns being able to track them across the
upper plain. Besides, they wouldn't dare
venture so far, believing them to be Indians. Bah! They were safe enough;
they were enjoying themselves. Let Phil
Quantrell and the girls go to the deuce!
With these and other like speeches was
Borlasse's proposal met. Drink had made
his men mutinous and disregardful of their
duty, as of him.

duty, as of him.

He grew angry, roared like an infuriated bear, and threatened to quarrel with them. But they were all against him, and he saw t was no use attempting extreme mea-

sures.

In the morning, they said, they would assist him in the search—go anywhere he wished—but that night they must make merry and drink—drink!

Borlasse had to yield. To drown his chagrin he joined them in their revelry, and drank deeply as any.

The debauch ended by one and all becoming thoroughly intoxicated, each staggering as he best could to a place of re-

Some found their way inside the tents; others dropped down where they were, falling asleep sub Jove, or under the shadow of the pecans.

CHAPTER XC.

A BRACE OF HALF-BREEDS.

As the roystering robbers, one after another, succumbed to the strong drink and rolled over asleep, so one after another the lights of the encampment became wasted and went out. One only continued burning; this inside a small tent, standing some distance appart from the rost distance apart from the rest.

Two men were its occupants, both still awake and yet carousing. They were both men of mixed blood, though of races quite different. The one was half-Saxon, half-African; the other was in like proportions Spaniard and Indian. They were the mulatto Jupiter and the mestizo Fernand.

They had been a long time over cups, and to all appearance both had drank deeply, since they talked and acted as if far advanced toward a state of intoxication, For all this, they were still quite sober both of them, each believing the other to

Though thus mutually mistaken about one another's condition, each knew why he was not himself intoxicated. The grass forming a litter over the tent floor could have told why. It had been dry at the commencement of their carousal; but now at a late hour, after the prairie pirates had gone to rest, it was saturated in a spot be tween the feet of both, where glass after glass of strong liquor had been spilt; not accidentally, but with design, and surreptitiously, the men who thus poured it out concealing the act from one another.

That of the mulatto was to get the mestizo drunk, in order that he might himself take his departure, for purposes already known: while the latter, having suspicion of this design, was keeping sober to thwart

As the time passed on, and drink after drink appeared to be swallowed, Jupiter began to despair. He had never met with a man who could stand so much liquor without showing it as he with whom he had been so long hobnobbing.
What could it mean?

Was the mestizo's stomach coated with steel, and his head lined with iron?

Perhaps his drinking companion would e making the same inquiry about him? And he might also have been doing the As soon as this suspicion crossed the

mind of the mulatto he determined to watch the movements of the mestizo. He was not long before discovering

clue to the mystery, and why his convive was keeping sober as himself. With eyes turned toward the entrance of the tent, but twisted askant, he saw the lat-

the stealthily spilling his liquor.

The action was significant. There could be no doubt that he himself was being watched and guarded.

But the moment before he had believed himself sure of escape. Drunkenness had disembarrassed him of the others. But here was one taking care not to get drunk; still wakeful as a wolf or watch-dog How was he to get rid of 'this vigilant

sentinel? There was a way—only one. At least, there seemed but one. The eyes of the fugitive slave sparkled with a strange light as he thought of it. It was the lurid gleam

that speaks of an intention to kill. It came after reflection, but quick, telling him he must either kill or lose all he was trying to gain; perhaps be himself killed. Almost as quick was the action that followed. Detecting his drinking companion

as he poured out the liquor, he stooped toward him with a laugh, inquiring why he was practicing the trick. As the interrogatory entered the mestizo's ear the blade of a bowie-knife went through

his heart, and he fell dead upon the floor of the tent, without uttering even a groan.

The robbers remained buried in slumber, wholly unconscious of the tragical incident that had taken place so near them.

Amid their snores and loud, stertorous breathing, the mulatto glided gently and silently out from among the tents, and as silently made his way to the inclosure where the horses were kept.

Pronouncing some words in an undertone, one of the animals, separating from the rest, came up, allowing him to take hold of its forelock. It was the horse that belonged to Charles Clancy, which the robbers had taken from him.

Jupiter had not caught the horse without a purpose. Over his left arm he carried a saddle and bridle. The saddle was soon upon the animal's back, and the bridle bit between its teeth.

The corral was inclosed by the usual zigzag fence of roughly-split rails, its entrance being a set of bars. To the old Mississippian slave these were familiar things, and

he understood their manipulation.

The bars were gently let down, and as gently was the horse led through the open-There was no disturbance-no noise of any kind-not even when the fugitive, with

a knife he had surreptitiously taken from one of the tents, cut the string that tied Clancy's hound to a tree, and set the animal free. The dog, like himself, seemed instinctively to know there was a necessity. And while the drunken robbers lav slum-

from their midst, with a gun upon his shoulder, a pistel in his belt, a bowie-knife hanging against his hip, and a hound fol-

lowing at his horse's heels.
(To be continued—commenced in No. 97.)

We shall soon commence, in these columns, story of unequaled interest and originality, by Frederick Whittaker, who is now so great a favorite. It is called "Double Death; or, The Spy Queen OF WYOMING; a Romance of the Revolution, which, in many respects, must be regarded as one of the finest literary performances since the days of Cooper's celebrated "Spy."

HAWKEYE HARRY,

Young Trapper Ranger:

THE MYSTERY OF THE WOOD.

BY OLL COOMES. AUTHOR OF THE "BOY SPY," "BOY CHIEF," ETC.

CHAPTER XVII.

BEARDING THE LION. NIGHT passed away and the sun of another day dawned upon the village of Black Buffalo. Still the cunning Sioux knew naught of the foe that was environing their town, for all they were vigilant and scouts

were constantly on the move. Close to the edge of the stream, that divided the wooded bluffs and great prairie, stood the lodge of Black Buffalo. Upon the south side of the stream was a steep, pre-cipitous bank that guarded well the ap-proach from that direction. In a semicircle around the chief's lodge, touching the stream above and below, the wigwams of the tribe were built with no little precision.

The chief's lodge was well guarded and he had no fear of danger, for a foe could not approach from the south, nor could he pass the line of wick-e-ups without being

At an early hour on the morning in question, five men took their departure from the Indian town. They were Henri Roche and his men, starting back for the contents of the chest they had buried upon the banks of

The chief found himself alone in his lodge soon after the departure of the outlaws. The execution of the young male captive. Richard Parker, was to be postponed until Roche's return, consequently quiet and inactivity prevailed. The warriors lounged idly about their wigwams and slept in the warm sun. Only their squaws were busy bringing water and fuel and dressing game

of the previous day's chase.

But where was Nora Gardette? where was Gertie, the captive child of the old trapper? and where the child of Clouded-

Ah! see yonder! Out from a neat-looking little lodge floats a being fair as the sun ever shone upon. Her skin is white but her movements and manners and gaudy flashing ornaments and clothing, were those of an Indian. But seven years could change the habits of a child into those of an Indian princess. It must be Gertie, the child of Old Optic.

The young princess crossed the opening between the wigwams and the lodge of the chief, and approached the latter structure. At the door she was met by Black Buffalo. "What does my white daughter want?" he asked. "I see that her face wears a cloud which tells me her heart is sad."

"My heart has always been sad, Black Buffalo," she said. "Ever since I was taken from my poor papa and mamma, I have known no happiness. But I came to inter-cede for the life of the prisoner yonder," and she pointed toward young Parker's prison-

The chief's brow clouded and a grim smile swept over his face. Then you love the pale-face prisoner?"

The princess hung her head and blushed The chief noted her emotions and continued:

"The pale-face youth shall die. You are to be the wife of the chief, called Roche, when three suns more go down. Waugh!" The last exclamation was occasioned by the unceremonious intrusion of a figure wrapped in a great blanket, into the sacred

precincts of the chief's lodge. Before the chief could utter a single word, the figure threw aside the blanket, and there face to face with the great Black Buffalo, stood Hawkeye Harry, the ranger.

The brave youth had come to beard the lion in his den, and before the chief could recover sufficiently from his surprise, a revolver was leveled full at his head, and a decided and unflinching voice said: Utter one word, Black Buffalo, that can

be heard outside of this lodge and you shall The chief fairly staggered backward before the deadly fire of the youth's eyes. His great spirit was quelled by the deadly wea-

pon pointed at his breast, by a hand he knew was never failing.
"What does the pale-face—" the chief began in a low tone, but permitting his voice to grow higher with each word—"want here? Does he—"

"Stop!" demanded Harry, "not so loud! If by word or action you make my presence in this lodge known, I will shoot you

The chief was unarmed, and he saw that the was unarried, and he saw that he was completely in the youth's power. It was over a hundred yards to the wick-e-ups of the warriors; the boy stood between him and the door of his own lodge, the flap of which was down; no sudden movement could defeat the youth's purpose, for his dark, gray eyes were fixed, with a steady, unwavering gaze upon his own black, scintillating orbs, and his finger was upon the

trigger of the weapon.
"I come," the youth continued, after a moment's hesitation, "for all the captives in your hands.

Ugh! hain't got any," replied the chief, in English.
"You lie!" exclaimed the youth; "within

the last two days you have brought two, a man and woman, to your den. I want them; also, a captive or two that you have had for years—one named Gertie. At this juncture a low cry burst from the lips of the Indian princess before him.

"Have you such a captive?" Harry continued. 'She stands before you," said the chief,

"She stands before you," said the chief,
"but she would rather stay with the redmen than go back to the pale-faces."

The youth glanced at the young princess
and saw that she was not an Indian. His
heart gave a joyous bound.

"Have you been a captive long, little
princess?" he asked.

"Many years," she replied.

"Do you remember what your name is?"

"Oh, yes, sir! it was Gertie—Gertie
Grav."

Gray." "And would you rather stay with these

red-skins?"
"Not if I could go to my papa, or poor "You can. Your father awaits you not

far away "Oh, then I want to go to him! Poor papa, I almost forget how he looks!"
"Then you shall go to him, little prin-

The brow of the chief clouded, and there was a convulsive twitching of the facial muscles, and a heaving of the chest, that told of the terrible emotions of vengeance and fear that were struggling within him.
"I know, chief," continued Harry, "it is

a great damper on one's pride and manhood to be caught in such a fix as this. I got into your lodge—walked right through your vilage wrapped in that blanket, which I took from one of your guards last night when I took his scalp. But, I have come for all the captives in your town, and unless I get them you'll have to die." "Have only that many captives," said the chief, holding up three fingers.

"Is that so, princess?"
"There are only two captives besides myself," the maiden answered.
"Then I want them," said Hawkeye

Harry.
"Black Buffalo will go bring them, then," said the chief, in a tone which our

then," said the chief, in a tone which our hero did not mistake.

"No, you must not leave this lodge. You might bring a pack of your warriors instead of the prisoners. No, no, chief, you can't catch me that way. Send this princess, and let her bring the captives here. She can tell the warriors that you sent for them. When they are here, then will I remove this revolver from its present will I remove this revolver from its present dangerous position. Send the princess for

the captives The face of the chief grew brighter, and Harry knew at once that he was meditating over some design to thwart his intentions.

'Go, pale rose, and bring the two captives here. Let their hands be bound at their backs. Tell the warriors that I sent ou, and for none of them to come until I

"That'll do, chief," said the daring young ranger, although he fathomed the meaning f the last three words. With face radiant with joy, the little

princess turned and glided from the lodge. In less than five minutes she returned, followed by Richard Parker and Nora Gar-The latter was pale and sad, but when her eyes fell upon Harry, a cry of oy burst from her lips and a light of love

The captives' hands were bound, but, by direction of Harry, they were untied by the What is to become of us. anyhow, cou-

in Nora?" asked Dick Parker. "Set at liberty," said Hawkeye Harry.
Young man, take that rifle, tomahawk and lance that stand behind the chief, and then, with the princess and Nora, cross the stream to the prairie on the foot-log that spans it just south of this log. Go, and be quick !

Grasping the weapons, Dick Parker, followed by the two maidens, left the lodge and proceeded toward the stream where it was spanned by an uprooted tree.

At this juncture, a savage yell was heard along the line of wigwams. The warriors had been watching the chief's lodge, their suspicions or curiosity being aroused by the princess leading the two captives to the dge. And when they saw Parker and the maidens, free and unguarded, moving to-ward the stream, something of the real truth of affairs flashed upon their minds, and seizing their weapons, they started, with a yell, toward the lodge.

Hawkeye Harry was startled by the yell, and the hellish gleam that was flashed from the eyes of the chief. The young pale-face has now got him-

self into a trap," the chief said, with a fiendish smile. The youth backed from the lodge; then, turning, fled after the three captives. With a war-whoop that sounded unearth-

v. Black Buffalo shot from his lodge and called to his warriors. The four whites hurried across the creek on the log, and by command of Hawkeve Harry, threw themselves upon the ground

in the tall prairie grass. The savages swarmed to the creek, and some of them had sprung upon the log to cross. But, at this juncture, fully three-score of forms arose from the grass on the opposite side of the stream, and poured a withering fire upon the savages. In dismay they recoiled, leaving a score of dead

Then arose the war-cry of the Fox warriors under Red Wing, mingled with the triumphant shouts of the dragoons.

The Sioux fled beyond range of the enemy's rifles in the wildest confusion. Owing to the precipitous hight of the bank upon which they stood, our friends did not

Hawkeye Harry and his three captive upon them. His home now is in a cavern gether.

friends now hurried back to the rear, where a little group of three persons were standing, holding a number of horses. They were Old Optic, Calvin Gardette and

were Old Optic, Calvin Gardette and Clouded Heart.

Nora was clasped to her father's heart, and both wept tears of joy.

And Gertie Gray, the Indian princess, knew her father, Willis Gray, alias Old Optic, after many years of sorrow and separation; and their meeting was an affecting one. Then, from Gertie's lips, he listened to a long story of wrong and sorrow, in which Henri Roche was the chief actor.

It is unnecessary for us to repeat her story, for it proved a confirmation of the same story which Clouded Heart told the old trapper, the night he came to the Cone.

After the first excitement of the meeting

of fathers and daughters was over, Willis Gray, as we will henceforth know Old Op-tic, took Clouded Heart aside, and said to

him:

"Clouded Heart, you have told me the truth. My darling wife, who I believed had deserted me for the love of another, was true to me! Gertie confirms your story! Cecil, my wife, was decoyed from -captured and carried away into cap tivity by Henri Roche, for revenge. She was kept a slave for several years, and finally made her escape, but where she is Gertie does not know; and, Clouded Heart, I shall never rest day or night until she is found. For the information you gave me that has led to the rescue of Gertie, I thank you with all my heart, and am sorry that you did not find your child."
"I did find her, though, Willis Gray,"

replied the masked stranger.
"What!" exclaimed Willis Gray, "you

found your child?" "Yes; Gertie Gray is my child!"
"Oh, God! then you are Cecil, my wronged wife!" cried Gray, starting toward

Clouded Heart. The mask was thrown aside, and once again, after long years of heart-suffering, Willis Gray looked upon the face of Cecil Gray, his wife!

CHAPTER VIII.

CONCLUSION. Two days following the events just recorded, a casual observer might have seen a number of buzzards hovering over the for

est, not far from the valley in which was the encampment of Red Wing. The filthy birds showed great anxiety in their movements, for now they settled down, down, as though ready to attack their quarry; then they would start up again with affright, and poise themselves high above the tree-tops upon airy wing, and with naked coral necks outstretched, watch below But what were they watching? Was it a

wounded deer, or wolf?

No, it was a party of men. But why should the birds be watching them? Did their instinct tell them of the tragic scene that was about to be enacted there within the silent wood—a scene that would result in a banquet to them?

Let us see.

The party stood in a little opening, and in a circle around five other men who were

bound hand and foot. The prisoners—for such the bound men were—were Henri Roche and four of his men. Their captors were the dragoons, Hawkeye Harry, Richard Parker, and others. And the scene that was now about o be enacted was the execution of the rob bers. A rope was around each one's neck, which told the manner by which they were

to meet their end. When Roche saw that the hand of justice had him within its iron grasp, from which there was no escape, his courage gave way and, in hopes of mercy, he divulged many

of Willis Gray and his wife, the abduction of Nora Gardette, and that he was Rat Rougle, the robber chief. His object in abducting Nora was to exact

He confessed his crimes in the separation

a princely ransom for her restoration to her father, whom he knew to be a wealthy But all his schemes of wickedness had failed, and he met his just rewards, along

with his associates, there in the forest. The execution is over. Henri Roche is no more. The party moves on, and those foul birds overhead settle down without But they start up again, and soar away with apparent disappointment. They found no quarry in the woods, for the bodies of the dead had been interred by

their executioners. Upon the banks of the Boyer River, where Henri Roche had buried his chest, the dra goons went into camp on their return from the Sioux town. Here they concluded to remain a couple of days to rest their overworked animals before continuing their re-

turn to the fort. Those two days were eventful ones in the life of Hawkeye Harry and Nora Gardette. They walked along by the river, and talked of the hour so near at hand when they must part. They recounted their adventures together-spoke of their first meeting in the motte on the prairie, and the many trying dangers that followed their flight from the outlaws' camp. At last they spoke of the future. This led to the subject nearest each one's heart—love. With heaving breast and tremulous lips, Hawkeye Harry breathed forth the love that had been awakened. And was his love reciprocated? How could it have been otherwise?

Ere they returned to camp, the young ranger had imprinted the first seal of love

upon Nora's lips. Where now were Richard Parker's hopes of the future? We answer: they were cen-

tered upon Gertie Gray.

In the mean time, Willis and Cecil Gray had wandered forth into the woods, to talk over bygone days, and recount their trials and troubles. It was on the evening of their second day's sojourn by the Boyer, and they were some distance from the camp, when Gray came to a sudden halt, as he caught sight of a thin column of blue smoke rising above the tree-tops a short distance

before him. What is it, Willis?" asked his wife. "Smoke. There must be a camp-fire out there, and it may be that of an enemy."

"No, it is not," replied his wife, with a smile. "You know, Willis, I told you I lived with brother Tom, after my escape from the Indians. I first met him in the woods near here. He was an object of de-spair, like myself. His family had all been murdered in the Spirit Lake massacre, and he was hunting the foe to wreak vengeance

under the ground, from whence that smoke is rising yonder. I have lived with him there just six months. It was he who first discovered that Old Optic was Willis Gray. But, come, and I will show you the cave."

She led the way down to the edge of a

little creek, and then, pointing to the opposite side, said:

"The cavern is directly under that bank, and extends out under the bed of the stream. That large basswood tree standing over yonder is hollow, with an opening far up among the branches. The hollow of the tree is open to the ground, and so connected with the cavern as to serve in an excellent manner as a chimney. It has puzzled a great many who saw the smoke, but could not tell from whence it came, and Hawk-

eye Harry is one of them."
"Yes; I remember now; he told me something of it a few evenings ago," said Gray; "but, where is the entrance to the cavern?"

There are two entrances. One is concealed by a large flat stone overgrown with moss. The other, and the one brother and I mostly used, is under the bed of this creek!" "What! you are jesting, Cecil?" said

Willis Gray.
"I am not, Willis. Brother found that the cavern extended under the creek, and to make our situation doubly secure, he made an opening up through the center of the stream, which at that time was perfectly dry. He then fixed a frame with a kind of a trap-door over the opening, so that the water could pass over it, as it was on a level with the bed of the stream. When the door was down, and water in the creek, it washed sand and gravel over the trap, thus concealing its presence from view, and filling the crevices around the frame, so that no water could find its way through into the cavern. When we wished to go out, we pushed the trap *upward*, thereby turning the water from about the opening, and enabling us to make an exit, though we were always compelled to wrap a blanket or buffalo-skin around us to escape a thorough wetting, as much water found its way into the cavern when the door was up; the water, however, did not render the cave disagreeable, for it found its way out immediately, through a narrow passage opening into the creek at the foot of you rapids. My object, Willis, in staying in the place was to be near you, and search for our child, whom I lost track of after leaving the tribe, and of whom I never heard, until the day I worked the secret from Henri Roche, by pretending I was dying," and Cecil Gray aughed at the remembrance of that meet

ing with the outlaw. At this juncture a low exclamation burst from Gray's lips, as he fixed his eyes upon the bed of the creek before him.

He saw something thrust upward in the water, revealing a small cavity, through which a dark, hairy form suddenly appear-

"'Tis brother!" cried Cecil. "Tom!

The form leaped from the opening threw aside its hairy robe, and the next instant Willis Gray grasped his brother-in-law, a

When Cecil and her husband returned to camp on the Boyer, her brother went with them, with the determination of leaving the country forever.

Hawkeye Harry now received an expla-nation of the mystery of the smoke ascending from the basswood tree, and the hairy form he saw rise from the bed of the creek and slay the Indian, and Tom was indeed the "Unknown." The young ranger was not a little surprised when he learned, also, that the occupants of the cave knew of his presence by the creek that night.
But with this mystery we are done

The party resumed their journey to the fort, and reached the point in due season

and in safety. And now came the "tug of war"-the parting of friends and lovers. But, with the renewal of pledges and love vows, in tears and entreaties, the separation took

Calvin Gardette and his daughter, Willis and Cecil Gray and their daughter, all departed for the East, as also did Richard Hawkeye Harry remained at the fort, but it was only for a short time. A year later found him in one of the leading eastern schools, and still a few years later he went to the home of Nora Gardette, and claimed a fulfillment of their yows made years agone

upon the banks of the Boyer river. With his young wife, Harry Houston went West, where he laid the foundation of wealth, prominence, and the best of all, a oyous and happy life. Richard Parker married Gertie Gray, and

theirs was a life as bright and full of sun-shine, as the life of Gertie's parents had been dark and clouded. THE END.

In DEATH NOTCH, THE YOUNG SCALP-HUN-TER—by Oll Coomes, author of "The Boy Spy" and "Hawkeye Harry"—the readers of the SATURDAY TOURNAL have another of this admirable author's admirable creations. Its early appearance in our columns will greatly enhance the interest now created in this writer, whose exclusive engagement on this paper is a matter of congratulation to us as well as to our vast audience of eager readers.

How the Turks Work .- The methods of labor are peculiar. The Turk will invariably sit at his occupation, if possible. The trader, in his little store, all exposed to the street, may thus be seen, cross-legged, tailor-like, drawing in the smoke of his marghile, through its long, flexible tube, seemingly lost to all sublunary affairs, and ndifferent whether customers come or If a mechanic, he always sits, if possible, and I thus see them, pressing the block of wood which they are fashioning between the soles of their feet. The blacksmith, in his little seven-by-nine shop, digs a hole to stand in, bringing thus the anvil nearer his arms. If a log of timber, forty or fifty feet in length, is to be converted into planks, it is first raised by main force on wooden horses six or seven feet, and then one man above and another below pull the saw-requiring a good day's work for the two to do what a Maine saw-mill would accomplish in five or ten minutes. And so through all the walks of life. The ancient scribe is also a Turkish institution. You find him cross legged in his shop, with writing materials before him, ready to write a letter for you, draw an instrument, or sell you the mate rials for yourself. Perhaps yonder self-satisfied Turk, entering the mosque, for his devotions, at the fast of Ramazan, forms not a bad counterpart to the Pharisee, and so we have the Scribes and Pharisees to-



NEW YORK, JULY 6, 1872.

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The Man of Many Lives!

In the celebrated Major Max Martine (Henry M. Avery), it may be said that we have a man of many lives, for, as college graduate; Hudson's Bay Fur Company Factor; Free Trapper and Indian-fighter; Chief of the Fierce Teton Sioux; Guide and Train Director; Adventurer in the Lone Wilds of the Sierras, and Traveler in Northern Mexico, he certainly has acted well the part of a halfdozen extraordinary men, and yet lives to tell his own story!

This story it is our great pleasure to present to our readers. Secured for our columns exclusively, and prepared with painstaking care. it is

ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE RECORDS

ever laid before the readers of popular literature, for it is at once the actual life in the untamed West, in all its phases, an a succession of narratives of danger, trial, trapper life, trail life, camp life, that read like the wildest romance. Then there are superadded a series of chapters descriptive of the mystery of Indians' life-of their customs, habits, superstitions, ceremonies, secret societies, Medicine-men, wigwam and lodge relations, etc., etc.-all literally charged with new and novel information; so that the whole series will assume the guise of history, biography, travel and romance combined!

A schedule-contents of chapters will be given in a coming issue, by which it will be seen that we do not magnify the importance o this contribution to our columns; and that it will measurably add to the keen public interest now taken in our successive issues, we can well assume.

Our Arm-Chair.

South-west Outlaws.-The doings of Borlasse and his band of Prairie Pirates, as described by Capt. Mayne Reid in his SATUR-DAY JOURNAL romance, Tracked to Death, may seem to some readers, not fully conversant with the local history of the South-west, as unnatural and overdrawn; but the frequent stories of murder by such villains as Hildebrand and Sharpe, and the Colorado despe rado, "Brick Bison," only show that even to day a parallel to Borlasse is not wanting.

An incident which occurred in the Indian Territory, Cherokee County, last April, is a case right in point, illustrative of the truthfulness of Capt. Reid's characterizations. The item, as given by the press, read as follows:

' A desperado named Proctor, who had committed several murders, was being tried for one of them the court-house containing a number of his friends victed. His acquittal being consequently expected some la. officers with a posse came outside the building ready to arrest him on another charge as soon as the trial ended. Both parties were arm and firing at once began, eight of the posse being killed and two wounded, while four of Proctor's party were also killed and seventeen wounded. The uninjured of the posse beat a hasty retreat. In the court-house the sheriff was killed and the judge se riously wounded, and a juror was also killed, the combat, of course, ending the trial. The telegrams reporting the occurrence say, Proctor has committed eighteen murders and is still unhanged. General Sheridan has sent a body c troops to that section desperadoes who have taken refuge there. Proctor and his friends have left the town and taken refuge in the mountains near by."

After such a record of fact as this it is hardly possible to charge our writers of fiction with exaggeration regarding the lawlessness of the Border, and Captain Reid may stand acquitted of any charge of "overdoing the thing" in his nictures of South-west civilization.

The New Series. - Of the promised series of papers by Mr. Avery, and of the author himself, the Warren, (Ill.) Sentinel thus speaks

"We are pleased to see an announcement in the Saturday (N. Y.) Journal, of a series of articles from the pen of Henry M. Avery, (Major Max Martine), under the title of "Trap, Trigger and Toma hawk," relating the personal experiences of Mr Avery among the Indians of the North-west while a scout in the Government service, a trader and trap per, and as agent for the Hudson Bay Fur Company The articles, we feel assured, will be presented in an attractive form, while from our personal ac quaintance with the author and his MSS, we feel assured that this series of articles will be worthy the attention of the candid and thoughtful mind in description and historical facts, while there will be a vein of humor and yet a chain of thrilling interest in the incidents, anecdotes and hair-breadth escapes which were part of the experience of the author while ''way up there.'

These contributions are worthy of, and will receive, great attention, for they are perfect transcripts of life among the Indians and trappers of "the Plains" and of the Northwest Forests. The Major was for three year. a sub-chief of the Teton Siou, ; was a Free Trapper; was a Hudson's Bay Company Employer; was a Train Guide and Camp Hunter and on all this wide experience he has drawn for the material for the contributions here re ferred to. Our columns have been so crowded of late, with pre-announced serials, that we have not yet been able to commence the Major's series, but hope, ere long, to start them. They will be illustrated from life designs, and

altogether must prove among the most attract ive and useful contributions to the Weekly press that have appeared for years.

Enterprising.-A professedly "popular" veekly of this city, claiming a considerable irculation, has obtained much of that circuation by systematically appropriating advertising forms, authors names, etc., of its cotemporaries. One of its last dodges is to announce, on its posters, "Mr. Aiken's New Story." As the noted novelist and dramatist, Mr. Albert W. Aiken, writes only for the SA TURDAY JOURNAL, it is a happy stroke of underhand policy to make it appear that he writes for the other paper. If the reader is disgusted to find that "Mr. Aiken" is not Albert W. Aiken, why-he pays just six cents for the information. One or two such sells we should suppose would suffice; but, apparently, it "pays," else our neighbor would try and strike out a new line of operations.

The new story by Mr. Albert W. Aiken which will soon be ready for the press, is a sequel to his celebrated "Overland Kit"-one of the finest stories of the mines and of wild life ever written. The interest in this mysterious outlaw became so general and wide spread that the author was almost constrain ed to reproduce him in another role and character, which he has done in Rocky Moun-TAIN ROB, THE OVERLAND OUTLAW-a story in many respects, of unequaled interest and originality-an announcement which we are sure will be received with delight by the read-

WITHOUT HEARTS.

To judge by a few remarks I have recently heard, it would seem that some persons were losing all the heart they once possessed, and that death were not so solemn a

personage as he was wont to be.

A lady had lost her son, a fine young man, just at the age of twenty-one. I was thinking what I could say to make her grief less poignant, and almost dreaded to make

If some the call after the funeral.

I found her sad, and I scarcely wished to speak of the loved one so recently placed at rest in his grave, lest I should add more to her weighty grief.

At length I spoke of his noble, manly qualities his uniting energy and his independent.

qualities, his untiring energy and his indo-mitable will to crush out wrong and op-

"And dying as he died, just at the time when he might have been of use to me,"

she added, complainingly.

That selfish speech caused me to look upon the speaker, to see if she really meant what she said. I grieve to say she did. She seemed to feel the loss of her boy, more because it lessened the earthly pleasures his money, and not his presence, would bring her than for the void he would make in her

I often think that when we leave this tenement of clay we should be allowed to remain quietly in our graves, and not have our friends grieve at our loss, because we can no longer work for them. Are we be grudged our homes in Heaven simply be-cause our support is taken from those left? Is it not hard to think that we are missed because the muscle has departed that worked with a strong will, and can no more hew and cut as it once did? Do our strength of body and power of working make us more valuable than our truth, virtue, probity and uprightness? Are we not allowed to rest our tired heads in our graves, and is money,

money, money all the world cares for?

Again, is all mother-love gone? Can you believe me when I tell you I heard the following speech made: "It was better that mother should die, for my brother and I should have to support her, and we are now gaining over over livings, and we have all gaining our own livings, and can keep all Yet that speech was made, and we gain.' by one, too, who had a good and kind mother. Do you see how he could dare to give utterance to such a speech, even if he had it in his thoughts? I could scarcely believe my own ears, and only for others hearing it as well as myself, I should thought my ears had misled me. Shame upon him, who could so soon forget the

who bore him! If he sees these lines, let me say to him if his mother had lived and he did have to support her, it was his duty to do so—a duty that should be looked upon by him as pleasure and not as a task. Does he the many hours of care and pain he gave that dear mother, when he was young and helpless? Does he suppose a wish ever came into her heart that he were dead, so she could be relieved of care?

No, no! It is not in a true mother's na ture to turn against her offspring.

When I heard the cruel speech I thought that there were some beings who had no hearts, and I thought how kind Heaven had been to remove that mother, ere learned the ingratitude of her child. T boy was esteemed by me once; he is de-

A word more. Speak not of the dead in fine music a slighting manner, whatever you may do of the living. He who loves not the memory of the dead has no heart; if he has, it must be a heart of stone.

EVE LAWLESS.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

A HAPPIER and a pleasanter world would this be, if we received more encouragement in our efforts to please. Every one has his way of doing work, and naturally expects others will at once fall into that Now, it is a very hard thing to work for many hours and receive no word of thanks that will encourage us to do better. Of course we are paid for our work, but is pay all that is needed? Is not a kind word as needful to the wants of the heart as money is to the desires of the body?

Take a bright and cheerful lad, and put him into a store under the rule of a hard stern master, who is forever looking ove his shoulder and telling him that that isn' the way to do business, who will almost expect the boy to be in two places at once. scolds him if he is a moment late from an errand, scolds him if he wants a half-holi day, scolds him because he doesn't write fast enough, scolds him when he does so and says he hurries through his work scolds him at the opening of the store in the morning, and scolds him at the shutting of it at night. What kind of a man will that lad make?

If we do make a failure once in a while, wouldn't it be better to cheer up our drooping spirits with a word of encouragement and not dampen them with this continued

There lives a man in one of our large cities, the owner of a wealthy establish ment, who, upon engaging a boy to work

for him, remarked, "I want people in my employ who never make a mistake. may think the boy found perfection in that establishment, but he did not; he found the man to make blunders himself, but would never acknowledge them to be so, and he found him to be fretful and domineering The boy tried to do well, yet never received any encouragement to do better, and he left

any encouragement to do better, and he left the establishment to go where his efforts were more highly appreciated.

Do these men forget they ever had a boyheod themselves? Do they not remember that they once needed encouragement when they were young? Then why withhold it from others? That man, who says to his employees, "Well done," gains their love faster than he who looks upon other's work with a shrug of his shoulders and says nothing. Give us encouragement and we will give you better work.

F. S. F. give you better work.

SUNSHINE.

Do what you can to make sunshine in the world. Lift up the curtains. We do not mean the curtains of the room, but the curtains which darken the spirit of your brother, your friend, your neighbor, or even of a stranger, if the curtain strings are

within your convenient reach.

Lift up the curtains, and let the sunshine in! Light is better than darkness, and how cheap it is! A kind and cheering word to one who is in trouble, and is perplexed, and almost discouraged; a word of heartfelt sympathy to the afflicted; a loving word of counsel to the young; a word of assurance to the doubting; a "soft word which, though it butters no parsnips, turneth away wrath,'
to the prejudiced and unreasonably pro

voked; all such words as these are sunshine to those to whom they are spoken.

"I have never found any thing else so cheap and so useful as politeness," said an old traveler to us once. He then went on to state that, early in life, finding how useful it was frequently to strangers to give ful it was, frequently, to strangers, to give them some information of which they were in search, and which he possessed, he had adopted the rule always to help everybody he could in such little opportunities as were constantly offering in his travels. The result was, that out of the merest trifles of as sistance rendered in this way, had grown some of the pleasantest and most valuable acquaintances that he had ever formed.

How many great men have testified that their whole lives have been influenced by some single remark made to them in their boyhood? And who can not recall words spoken to himself in his childhood, to which, perhaps, the speaker attached no importance, but which sunk deep and immovably into his memory, and which have never los

their power over him?

Make sunlight! the world at best is dark enough. Do what you can to make it more enough. Do what yo cheerful and happier.

Foolscap Papers. The Accordeon.

BESIDES the spiritual horse-fiddle, which was improvised by drawing a fence rail over the well-rosined edge of a dry goods' box, the only musical instrument that ever came within gunshot of what my youthful idea of a musical instrument should be, was the divine and all-harmonious accordeon, and a painting by the celebrated, long-haired, middle-named artist of our native village in that day, representing a bery of angels with accordeons in their hands, made me want to be an angel, or, at least, to get strength of a cruel and extorted promise that I wouldn't tell a lie for a week, and manifest other symptoms of general behavity, my father generously allowed my aunt o present me with a new one, which set me in the eighth heaven—the one above the

seventh. I never saw any thing half so full of music as that was; and I think that no other instrument ever was invented that would strengthen the muscles while it en larged the musical capacities like that did and the only consolation my father even had out of it was the idea that it was a little something like work to me; but, somehow never could get entire control of it unles put it under the influence of chloroform and I played nothing on it but medleys, for never knew more than two or three notes in any tune in the world, and sometime not more than one note; so, when I would start off on one tune, there was no telling on what tune I'd bring up-so skillfully

I know very well now just where I missed it. I should have let some good player take it awhile, and play all the best tunes until the accordeon got used to them, and then there had been no trouble; as it was, it had a great deal of unfamiliarity with

After awhile its lungs got asthmatic from the continuous strain on its constitution and once, while I was playing it with a condensed storm, it blew up, sending fragments of a thousand tunes flying through the roof and the sides of the house.

That accordeon was a shipwreck; patched it up and attached it to the nozzle of a blacksmith's bellows, and hired a boy to pump while I fingered the keys; yet, un der the pressure of that double extract of hurricane, its notes were feeble and few, and badly discounted, so I took the inwards out of it and used it for a valise. My affections have changed. I hate to love and love to hate an accordeon now.

What led me to speak of these musical instruments is the fact that my neighbor has one of them, and devotes all of his spare hours to jerking music out of it (as he is a man of great leisure-his wife manages a millinery shop—he has many spare hours). He knows that I don't like that kind of

music, and that is what makes him so in dustrious at it. He is endeavoring to familiarize me with it, without even charging ne a cent for his lessons

It has such an effect upon me that l haven't any desire to go to sleep when he is playing, and I will wake up at any hour of the night just to hear it. It is very affecting. It affects me terribly. It has almost destroyed my desire for life. I often go out and throw stones against his house, but e makes such noise he never hears them. I have thought it would be some relief to live inside of a new boiler while they are riveting it with seventeen hammers; that, at least, would be a change.

The accordeon breathes as if it had a touch of the catarrh, or a sore throat, for its voice is very hoarse; but it never stops, I don't think he lays it by to go to his meals,

and am under the impression that they feed

him with a spoon.

At two different times have I got up in a fury and set fire to his house, but the strong current of air produced by the accordeon has extinguished it before it got a start.

Once I blew the house up with nitro-gly-

cerine, but it only made two or three turns in the air, without falling to pieces, and lit on its foundation again, without that performer knowing any thing about it, unless he noticed that the accordeon played with a good deal more force than usual.

I get up to music, and lie down to music, and eat to music, and read to music, and talk to music, and—I was almost going to say I swear to music, and I expect that some of these days I shall die to music—

and not slow music either.

It doesn't matter if I go out of town; my ears have got so used to hearing it all the time that they ring with it.

I have indicted him as a nuisance three

lifferent times, but, whenever the officers of the law went to arrest him, he blew such a blast with the accordeon that they have been swept from the face of the earth.

Gilmore tried to hire him to play at the Boston Jubilee, but the infernal fool told him he had a season engagement with me and couldn't think of leaving. I'm thinking it wouldn't have been a jubilee if he had gone there, and wonder why they didn't go to Italy and engage a first-class basso profundo

Of course I'm nearly crazy, and, if it keeps on this way two or three years longer, I am in great danger of getting disgusted.
Shooting does no good. I've shot him several times out of my side window, but he never pays any attention to it. I give up

WASHINGTON WHITEHORN.

Short Stories from History.

Origin of the Drama.—If Æschylus be styled, as he usually has been, the father, Sophocles certainly demands the title of the master of tragedy, since what the former brought into the world, the other reduced to

a more regular form.

Sophocles was five and twenty when he conquered his master, Æschylus, in tragedy. Cimon, the Athenian General, having found the bones of Theseus, and brought these noble relics with pomp into the city, a contention of tragedians was appointed, as was usual upon extraordinary occasions. Æschylus and Sophocles were the two rivals, and the prize was adjuged to Sophocles, although it was the first play he ever present-

ed in public.

Cicero relates that this great man continued the profession of his art, even to his latest years; but his sons resented this severe application to writing as a neglect of his family and his estate. On this account, they at last brought the business into court before the judges, and petitioned the guar-dianship of their father, as one that was grown a dotard, and therefore incapable of managing his concerns. The aged poet be ing acquainted with the motion, in order to his defense came presently into court, and recited his *Œdipus of Colonos*, a tragedy he had just before finished, and then desired to know whether that piece looked like the work of a dotard? There needed no other plea in his favor, for the judges admiring and applauding his wit, not only acquitted him of the charge, but, as Lucian adds, voted his sons madmen for accusing him. The general story of his death is, that having exhibited his last play, and obtained the prize, he fell into such a transport of joy as carried him off; but Lucian differs from the common report, and affirms that he was choked with a grape-stone, like An-

The passion which Sophocles entertained for the drama, was of the noblest and purest description, and often displayed itself superior to every feeling of personal interest or vanity. He appeared once on the stage in the character of a mere domestic, who had not a word to utter, but only to play at ball, in order that, by his peculiar skill in the art, he might give the last finishing grace to the representation of the tragedy. He probably thought with our poet, that

"Honor and shame from no condition rise, Act well your part, there all the honor lies."

Euripides, the contemporary and rival of of Sophocles, had originally devoted him-self to the study of philosophy; but warned by the fate of his master, Anaxagoras (who, under the accusation of despising the public gods, was banished from Athens by the mob), of the danger which then attended all free inquiry, he transferred his attention to dramatic poetry. Yet, although he had the fate of Anaxagoras before his eyes, he was not always so well guarded in his remarks as he should have been. He hazarded one relating to the sanctity of an oath, in his Hippolytus, which brought him into danger. "My tongue has sworn, but still my mind is free." For this verse he was impeached of impiety, as teaching and defending perjury; but it does not appear that he was punished for it. The answer he made to be accuser is left upon record by Aristotle That it was a very unreasonable thing to bring a cause into a court of judicature, which belonged only to the cognizance of a theater, and the liberty of a public festival; that when these words were spoken upon the stage, there went along with them some reason to justify them, and that he was ready to justify them whenever the bill should be preferred in the right place. Another time, Seneca informs us, he incensed the audiences highly, by making Bellerophon dogmatize too gravely in favor of avarice; so much so, indeed, that they would have driven the actor from the stage if Euripides himself had not appeared, and besought them to have a little patience, by assuring them that they would soon see the unhappy end of the miser, whose maxims had so highly disgusted the audience. In general, however, his pieces were pro-

digiously applauded; and nothing can better demonstrate the high esteem they were in, than the service they did to the Athenians in Sicily. The Athenian army, under the command of Nicias, suffered all the calamities of unsuccessful war, and the victors took a most cruel advantage of their victories; but, although they treated the Athenian soldiers with so much inhumanity, yet they are said to have spared such as could repeat any verses of Euripides. "We are told," says Plutarch, "that many who re-turned safe to their country, kindly saluted Euripides, declaring that they had been restored to their liberty for teaching their victors such of his verses as they remembered, and that others, who roamed up and down, had meat and drink given them in return for singing his verses.

Readers and Contributors.

To Correspondents and Authors.—No MSS, received that are act fully prepaid in postage.—No MSS, preserved for future orders.—Unavailable MSS, promptly returned only where stamps accompany the inclosure, for such return,—No correspondence of any nature is permissible in a package marked as "Book MS,"—MSS, which are imperfect are not used or wanted. In all cases our choice rests first upon merit or fitness; second, upon excellence of MS, as "copy"; third, length. Of two MSS, of equal merit we always prefer the shorter.—Never write on both sides of a sheet. Use Commercial Note size paper as most convenient to editor and compositor, tearing off each page as it is written, and carefully giving it its folio or page number.—A rejection by no means implies a want of merit. Many MSS, unavailable to us are well worthy of use.—All experienced and popular writers will find us ever ready to give their offerings early attention.—Correspondents must look to this column for all information in regard to contributions. We can not write letters except in special cases.

We shall use "Canght in the Toils;" "A Long Lesson;" "Cora's Ideal;" "How She Willed It;" "A Green Hand;" "The Main Truck;" "Sam Jones' Luck;" "A Summer Romance;" "Colum-bia."

The three MSS, by H. L. P. we retain for further consideration.

The poems by Grace G. are good enough, but we can find no room for them. Send them to some other paper.

We do not care to see the sketches of Mrs. C. S. H. It is wholly useless to ask us to take MS. be-cause the author is poor. Merit alone is the crite-

There is no room in our columns for a "Review of Mr. Beecher." Send it to the daily press. of Mr. Beecher." Send it to the daily press.

The following, for various reasons, are unavailable.
Only those are returned with which stamps were inclosed: "Mystery of Shadow Gap;" "A Race With
a Boa;" "The Miner's Doom;" "Love at Forty
Miles an Hour;" "Old Victor's Ruse;" "An Adventure;" "The Cruise of the Grasshopper;"
"Nelly and I;" "The Hero of Lucky Camp;" "A
Castalian Tale;" "Dick, the Ranger;" "Boardingschool Life;" "A 1,000 Mile Walk;" "The Brazilian Cruise;" "Nicodemus;" "A Bell for a
Belle;" "Miss Pike's Party;" "How He Bet and
Lost to Win;" "A Graphic Tale;" "Murphy's
Roost;" "Tom John's Third Wife."

It is wholly useless for authors remitting us MSS.

It is wholly useless for authors remitting us MSS. to ask us to write to them personally; we positively can not spare the time. This column must be our medium of communication.

The communication by F. W. P. is quite worth-less. The writer must learn how to write correctly before attempting to rush into print. CELIA T. The lady writer you refer to is, we believe, engaged exclusively on another paper. We have no desire to employ her, for she is not up to support of the state of the

A READER. There is such a publication as the Phonographic Journal, we believe, but can not

Phonographic Journal, we believe, but can not give its address.

Box of 14. There is but one way to cure thoughtlessness, and that is to be on the alert against it. Do what you do deliberately and well. If memory is defective, the very best corrective is to study the higher mathematics (algebra and geometry.) They are even better than Greek Verbs as a school to the memory and reasoning powers.

nemory and reasoning powers. C. W. D. We are not in want of any office help. If you are versed in the canvassing business why not obtain the agency of some good canvassing book and push it?

J. R. L. London: 3½ million.

EARNEST INQUIRER. There is a publisher of the name in Philadelphia, but we know nothing of the book referred to. All we can say is to be very chary of all books on such subjects.

SICK JOE. Cure the cause of your headache and you cure the trouble. Sometimes it is indigestion; sometimes an affection of the nervous system. An immediate alleviative is bromide of potassium—about which consult a physician.

J. F. and E. R. No; a chance to make a living by hunting is far too slender for a dependence. Game is now so scarce that even old hunters are giving up he business.

HAWKEYE HARRY. Colleen Bawn is an acting play, for which write to Samuel French, Publisher, New York. We know nothing of railway fares. Consult some ticket agent.

W. H. M., Weston, Vt. We have so much of the kind or class of matter as the sketch inclosed by you that we can not find place for it. Send it elsewhere.

No. 9. We know of no depillatory that is sure and does no injury to the skin. The Indians pluck out their hair by the roots, but even this does not prevent its renewed growth.

Belle of Rochester. If you believe what the advertisements of "Fortune Tellers" say, you are what, in New York would be called, "Very much green," These "Fortune Tellers" are the most arrant impostors and swindlers. Let them severely

DAVID G. A. To "go into politics" means, really, to go into a dirty business. By all means do not become an office-seeker, but give over hopes of politiwhich advice you will thank us, some of these

EMERY-WHEEL. The new "sand blast" is now in successful operation in this city. By it the most beautiful designs are cut on glass, metal and wood. It is merely a stream of fine sand directed upon the object to be cut or engraved, and is wonderfully economical and affective.

economical and affective.

SOLDIER. According to the statistics of the War Department, the number of enlisted men in the Army and Navy of the United States, during our late civil war was, from first to last, 3,200,000. The statistics for the Southern army were lost when Richmond was captured; but, up to July, 1864, they had enrolled, in army and navy, 400,000 men. Without doubt, were the United States invaded by a foreign power, the country, North and South, could put into the field an army of 5,000,000 men, 2,000,000 of whom would be experienced soldiers; and with the New Englanders for artillerists, light and heavy, the Western men for infantry, and the Southerners for cavalry, we need fear no defeat from the best armies of Europe. During our late war the strength of the North was not half brought out.

Fanner. Goats around a barnyard will drive all

FARMER. Goats around a barnyard will drive all the rats away. Try the recipe, if you do not consider the remedy worse than the evil.

A Society Miss. Take our advice and stop using all stang expressions, for nothing is more unlady-like than to hear a woman making use of such outre, phrases as "You bet," "Go for him," "O. K., etc., etc., of which there are all too many in our common vogue. It is not, as many consider, witty, to use slang, which, though frequently apropos, is nevertheless perfectly needless, and, in a certain

POLITICIAN. The President of the United States and the Governor of a State have the power of vetoing bills sent to them for signature after their passage by Congress or Legislature. passage by Congress or Legislature.

Cotton Planter. The first cotton spun in England by machinery, was by Mr. Wyatt, in 1730. The Dutch first exported cotton from Surinam, in 1736. Sea Island and Upland cotton were first planted in America in 1789. An Englishman built the first cotton factory in 1790, in Rhode Island. Eli Whitney, an American, invented and patented the first cotton in 1792. A bale of cotton should average about 400 pounds in weight.

ELIA H. To strengthen your delicate child, take him, if possible, to the coast; if that is impossible, give him at least a change of air. Change of air sometimes acts like magic upon a sickly child. The best medicines for a delicate little one will be wine of iron and cod-liver oil, given in the following manner: put a teaspoonful of wine of iron into a wineglass, half-fill the glass with water, sweeten it with a lump of sugar, then let a teaspoonful of cod-liver oil swim on the top; let the child drink such a mixture two or three times a day, An hour after meals is the best time.

HARWAY L. The vapor, called the atmosphere or air, extends about 4s miles perpendicularly around the surface of the globe.

HOUSEWIFE. To make "Scotch woodcock," take three or four slices of bread; toast and butter well on both sides; put between the slices of bread nine or ten anchovies well washed, scraped, and chopped fine; have ready the yolks of four eggs well beaten, and half a pint of cream—which set over the fire to thicken, but not boil, then pour it over the toast, and serve it to table as hot as possible.

Young Girl. To avoid catching cold accustom yourself to plenty of cold water. Sponge yourself well every morning after leaving the bed with cold water, and then dry yourself well with a rough towel. This usage will accustom your skin to the sudden changes from cold to hot.

JENNIE HUNT. A very pretty hat for a child is the "blade o' grass." This hat is one with a flat crown, and broad brim, trimmed entirely with blades of grass.

POET. "Gray's Elegy in a country churchyard" contained 991 words, of which 821 are derived from the Anglo-Saxon, 125 from the Latin, 15 from the French, 7 from the Italian, and 23 from the Greek. All writers who use most Anglo-Saxon words are most noted for terseness and beauty of expression.

Unanswered questions on hand will appear



ON LEAVING HOME.

BY EDWD. JAMESON.

- Leaving the home which so long hath befriended, Stepping out boldly to meet Lite's stern tasks, Sadly the heart learns, that soon will be ended, Ties the fond spirit unceasingly asks.

 Asks for the hours, that shall live in remembrance, Shining more splendid, when age shall decay, Filling the soul with a beautiful semblance.

 Spotless as yet, from Life's cankering sway.
- Pines the sad soul for the days that have perished,
 Longingly clings where its childhood was passed;
 Brightly in Memory's chambers are cherished,
 Where sped Youth's May time, unconsciously fast.
 Bleak seems the world, as these memories brighten;
 Darkling the future conceals its rough path,
 Save, where occasional glimpses may lighten,
 Only to show us the pitfalls it hath.

- Over my senses a halo is stealing.

 Pictured more strongly, the homestead appears;
 Memory, elusive, no longer concealing,
 Shows in full radiance my infantine years.
 Rapt is the vision, I may not unfold it;
 Closely 'twill cling to my footsteps through life,
 Evermore dear to my heart will I hold it,
 Purest of visions, unsoiled by earth's strife.

A Summer Romance.

BY JENNIE D. BURTON.

A RUSTLE of trailing silken robes, a waft of delicate fragrance, a vision of a fair, proud face and stately form. Ione passed the window where Vesey was lounging, while Earle, with his back to the light, was critically studying one of Claude's land-scapes. He turned, but too late to catch any thing but the shadow.
"Who was that?" he asked.
"Miss Dalmere."

"Beautiful Ione?" Yes. Who would have thought she could ever have reached such perfection? I can scarcely believe she is the same unformed girl I knew five years ago."
"You amaze me! I can not imagine Miss

Dalmere as having been any thing but the personification of loveliness; I did not know that you had ever met before this sea-

son."
"Nevertheless I came very near marrying that bit of cool perfection, once upon a

Earle's eyes widened, and he twirled a pencil in his fingers rather nervously. "What prevented?" he asked.

"My own disinclination," returned Vesey,

calmly.

"Ray!"

"Fact. I'm quite willing to confess to

"Fact. I'm ashamed of it. You

"Though I'm ashamed of it. You my folly, though I'm ashamed of it. You see, I was a romantic youth of twenty-one; she just sixteen, tawny as a gipsy, over-

grown and undeveloped.
"The match was arranged by an eccentric old uncle of mine, who claimed some remote degree of relationship with her also, and who had as great a propensity for match-making as any zealous stepmother. Ione was fond of me, and I must admit to talking a good deal of nonsense and putting my seal ring on her finger with an air of considerable impressment."

Ray Vesey stopped to turn the ring which was suspended by his watch chain, with no apparent intention of continuing his inform-

ation.
"Well?" queried Earle, impatiently.

"Well?" queried Earle, impatiently. "Why don't you go on?"
"Beg pardon! I was studying whether or no to reveal what an incomparable ninny I made of myself. The truth is, I fell a victim to the tender passion myself, and poured all the effervescing transports pertaining to the state of first loveism at the fairy feet of Miss Eustacie Loune—now Mrs Osprey."

Mrs. Osprey."
"Ray! what infatuation; Eustacie Osyears older tha faded, shallow, heartless, a piece of affected

vanity."
"This was five years ago, and old Osprey hadn't worried her into the haggard old woman she looks to be now. She hadn't outlived her belledom then, and I was blind to any fault in her. La belle Eustacie smiled sweetly upon me and brought a small tempest down on my devoted head. First, my uncle called me to an account and gave me my choice to solemnly engage myself to Ione, or be disinherited. In my youthful candor and innocence I scorned the base allurement of his solid quarter of a million, and declined to be wielded by such mercenary motives. I apostrophized the powers of faith and love, and very nearly got kicked out of his presence. Next was a scene with Ione, which ended with her flinging my ring at my feet, and sweeping from the room with the air of a scornful princess. I believe that was her first assumption of the dignity she wears so grace-

fully now.
"My uncle altered his will next day leaving every thing to Ione, and the fair Eustacie married old Osprey within a fortnight. Little peace she's had with him, and little enjoyment of his riches, if rumor speaks truly. And—I've never spoken to Ione since that day we parted. Come along and present me. Earle: like as not she has forgotten my very existence before now.

But Earle dallied over a pencil sketch he was making on the leaf of his memorandum-book, with a single glance askance at

Vesey. "You'll be renewing the old compact soon enough, I dare say," he suggested.
Ray drummed upon the window-sill with his face turned in the shadow, but made no reply. His artist friend, with a gesture of impatience, tore the leaf with the unfinished sketch from his book, and crumpling it into a ball, sent it spinning across the floor Ray possessed himself of it afterward when he could do so unobserved, and found that the single figure in the fore-ground wore the features of Ione.

There was the curve of a river which widened into a lake, and a strip of narrow beach where the figure stood, a little boat rocking at her feet. He had caught glimpse of Ione that morning, in this very position.

Just now the two young men linked arms and went out upon the piazza, at the fur-ther end of which she had seated herself on

the broad, low step.

The proud head bent graciously, and the calm repose of the perfect face was stirred by a drift of radiance as she smiled when the presentation was made in due form, but neither by word or look did she show that Ray Vesey was connected in her mind with any circumstance of her remembered

It was a quiet inland resort, this little village where the two met after the lapse of years which stretched between them and the old intercourse.

Vesey had come here for a short respite after a season of hard brainwork; he was a litterateur from necessity as well as inclina-

tion, and as yet had gained neither a great deal of fame nor much pecuniary profit through following the way which is seldom a path of roses to any author. He was awaiting the result of a work on which he hung his best hopes of future success, and had been somewhat restless under the strain of anxiety which made itself more apparent in this season of unwonted in-activity. But, after the advent of Miss Dalmere, he was oppressed by no sense of impatience at the delay. He would willingy have remained in suspense for a longer time than his publishers promised, for the sake of reveling undisturbed in the dreamland where he seemed to have been uncon-

This was before the deepest feelings of his strong nature had been stirred. Before he had yielded himself utterly to the power of the girl whom he had once slightedwhile the beauty she had developed pleased his eye, and met his appreciation of what was artistic in form, and color, and grace-

A little later came the upheaving of deep-

er passion, and the agony of doubt.

For Earle, possessed of ample fortune, genial tastes, good address and handsome person, made no secret of his warm admira-

tion for Miss Dalmere.
Earle painted a little for his own amusement, and with some real talent, managed to infuse the tint of life into all his pic-

So now, when it was rumored that Ione had consented to sit to him, there was a lit-tle stir among the city people who had gathered down upon the shore of the pretty lake. That Earle should exert himself in a new undertaking on these breezy summer days, when all the out-door world seemed to woo one to lazy contentment, was in itself evidence sufficient of his thorough sin-

It was the contemplation of this picture too, which woke Vesey to sudden compre-hension of the shoals and narrows into which the barque of his hopes had drifted. If Ione remembered the relation in which they had once stood to each other, it must be to scorn the weakness which had pos-sessed him. Now she held that quarter-of-a-million in her own right, while he ranked only as one of the countless throng that struggle constantly for the necessities and

luxuries of life. One day he came upon her all alone in a tangled, overgrown old garden, which had charmed him with its aspect of the wildly

picturesque. She had a taste for neutral colors, and her dress this day was of silver-gray silk, with simply a narrow black ribbon encir-cling her throat. She had broken a trailing ength of vine, spangled with star-like blos oms of vivid scarlet, which added just the touch of bright color needed to make the picture perfect.

An impulse irresistible came over him to snow if there was any chance of awakening in this vivid vision of womanly loveliness the depth of attachment which he knew had being with the unformed girl of five

'Do you remember how you stood under the drooping ivy vine in the old garden at my uncle's, the night when I put my ring on your hand, Ione? Seeing you here re-minds me of that time, but we have both seen many changes since. Have you for-

"I never forget," she answered, quietly.
"Nor forgive?" it was on his lips to ask,
while a throb of bitter pain wrenched his passion-struggling heart, but her warning glance checked him in time.

That very day Earle called him into the sky-lighted room he had fitted for a studio. He had just put the finishing touches to the portrait, and Ione's very self seemed to mile down at them from the canvas.

"Before the day is past, please Heaven, I shall ask her to be mine," said Earle, with more of tender reverence in his tone than Vesey had ever heard from him ere this.

I was afraid once, Ray, that you might enter the lists against me, and I tremble I should not have liked to break lances with so formidable an opponent, but, as it is, I am presumptuously hopeful."

So blind was he through all that he never suspected the sting his words inflicted And Ray Vesey, with the demon of un-rest astir within him, rushed away from familiar sights and sounds to wait until the

first throes of his agony should be past.

As the day wore away a sudden black cloud rushed across the zenith. He had not reckoned how the time was flying, and was startled to find how dark it had suddenly grown. It was scarcely more than mid-afternoon even yet, but the air was

thick with a murky twilight. He hastened to retrace his way, but long enough before the hotel was reached, the skies opened to let down the gathered floods in dense, driving sheets. Thunder pealed until the very earth rocked and quivered! Lightning flashed until all the heavens seemed one vast scroll of flame!

Such a violent, short-lived tempest seldom visits our temperate climate. Ray fought nis way resolutely through it, and reached the house panting, exhausted.

There was a letter waiting for him—a let-

ter from his publisher, announcing that his book was in type and proofs awaiting him. He set to work at once packing his effects determined to leave on the first morning train, but, while he was still busy, there came a break in the storm, a gleam of the setting sun, and a timid knock at his door.

He opened to Miss Dalmere!

She was pallid as death and quivering with agitation.

Mr. Earle went up the river to the little island where we picnicked yesterday," said she, hurriedly. "He has not come back, and his boat has been swept down the cu rent along with great piles of drift. The river is overflowing its banks, and they say the island will be quite submerged. Oh, Ray! what can be done? He will die there inless aid reaches him, for I have heard

him say that he can not swim."

Her eyes, suffused with tears, were uplifted imploringly to his. He understood the dangerous position, and with a growing pallor, was resolute as steel.

"Don't fear," said he, quietly. "I will go to his rescue; I will save him, Ione."

And he did it in the face of a hundred dangers where there was one chance of safety for them both.

It was Earle who told how he had walked the bridge of insecure drift, which swayed and heaved beneath the venturesome et-walked it far out into the swollen river to the swifter current which whirled the debris past with dangerous velocity, and here he battled with the stretch of rushing waters with almost superhuman strength. Earle grew breathless with awe of the

vivid remembrance over the recital, and yet he knew nothing of the fiercer battle Vesey had waged with the temptation which assailed him to let his rival meet his fate-or

how noble was the victory gained.

Ione comprehended it, though, but when she would have bestowed her meed of grateful praise, he was already gone from

the place.

Two months later, when his book was a decided success, and his fame established, Vesey met Earle in a city club-room. After commonplace remarks, the latter

lowered his tone to say:
"I was presumptuous, Ray; Ione was very kind, but she never cared for me. It was a sore hurt at first, but I'll conquer it

in time, I dare say."

The next train took Vesey speeding back to the lake shore, where Miss Dalmere still

It was all well with him at last, although

Ione said, with deprecating humility:
"Had you asked me that morning in the garden, Ray, I should have refused you. I never could quite root out the love of those old days, but the bitter resentment rankled too. It was not blotted out until I saw how nobly unselfish you had become when you risked your life to save Earle, whom you thought your rival."

"It was a double risk," he said, with a smile. "But I didn't dream that I had a chance left to gain you, my Ione."

Without Mercy: THREADS OF PURE GOLD.

A TALE OF TWO CONTINENTS. BY BARTLEY T. CAMPBELL,

AUTHOR OF "IN THE WEB." "OUT IN THE WORLD," "LAURA'S PERIL," ETC., ETC. CHAPTER XXI.

DESPAIR. TRACY did not recognize his preserver at first; indeed, not until Rupert mentioned the fact that he was the heir of Holcombe Hall, and was well acquainted with the history of Tracy's expulsion therefrom, did he return the kindly pressure of the hand that Rupert had given him.

"But, my poor fellow, has this thing set-tled upon your mind so heavy as this?" and he pointed at the river. Do you mean my uncle's displeasure ?'

'Of course. "Oh, no, sir; that set me back a bit, but I readily got over that, and was doing grandly, when this thing came to crush out hope and all desire to do, or live."
"What thing?" asked Rupert.

"My wife-my little Dora-was on the Argyle."
The ship that was lost off the Baha-

mas?" ejaculated Rupert.
"Yes; she perished in the wreck; went
down among strangers, and found a grave

far, far from home and me. Oh, sir! it must be very terrible to die in this way!" Yes, very terrible," repeated the young Spaniard; "but there were a number saved, were there not?"

A boat's crew." "May she not be among the rescued? The names have not been published yet."
"No, there is no hope of that. I have seen the persons who were saved: they came up on the Royal George; she is not among

He moaned as he said this; but he did not weep—he was beyond that—his grief was too intense, his despair too deep for tears. Rupert saw this, and approaching him,

'Mr. Cuthbert, believe me I feel deeply for you, and would do all in my power to drive this sorrow from you. Can I aid you

in any way? No, sir," replied the Englishman, grasping him by the hand again; "my distress is beyond cure, but I'm much obliged for your

'But, do you need money-No, no," interrupted Tracy; "I want only surcease from my agony—something to drown all recollection of my loss, and

hat only death can afford. So good-by, sir, He made a rush for the river, and ere Ru-

pert could prevent him, he had leaped into Quick as thought the young Spaniard jumped into a yawl that, fortunately, was close at hand, and calling to an Italian who was guiding a canoe full of vegetables down the stream, to catch the man whom he saw struggling in the water under his very prow,

he put all his strength on one stroke and was alongside the canoe in an instant. The Italian sprung to obey, and succeeded in catching Tracy by the hair, but he could not hold on, and then Rupert made a

similar attempt. He was more successful, and, with the aid of the Italian, the would-be suicide was dragged into the yawl, and, by dint of a little rubbing, consciousness came back, but only for a moment, and then Rupert made the startling discovery that Tracy Cuthbert

Reason had fled, and in its place a horrible insanity reigned.

The first thought of Rupert was to have him conveyed to the asylum, but the next "I'll have him taken home to aunt Monthe said; "it will afford Hester some gratification to be able to minister to his

comfort. Having determined on his course of action, he gave the Italian a dollar for his trouble, and told him to run up to the Al-

giers ferry landing and order a cab. The poor fellow did as directed, and in twenty minutes after Tracy was helped into the Montlea mansion, where every thing was done that could in anywise contribute

to his comfort. As Rupert had predicted, Hester was glad to minister to Tracy's comfort, and did so with such a hearty good will and sympathetic care, that Rupert was charmed more than ever.

It needed this duty, this severe discipline of the sick room, to bring out the depths of her womanly nature, and when a week had passed, and Tracy's reason and health had been restored sufficiently to enable him to appreciate all that his nurse had done for him, she felt repaid a thousand fold.

"Miss Corwin—Hester," he said, holding one of her hands in both of his, "we have been ill-starred, unfortunate, but we can console ourselves with the reflection that, whatever of pain and trouble has come to us, and others through us, we are free from any intention to err-have indeed been actuated by the purest motives."

"Yes," she said, dropping her eyes.
"You have placed me under a debt of gratitude by your care of me, that, be sure I will endeavor to repay if ever the opportunity offers, but for the nonce I have no-

thing to give but my thanks." She begged of him not to speak of repay-ng her. "I'm sufficiently compensated in ing her. knowing that you have been brought back to reason, and that my best friend, Rupert Gaspard, was instrumental in saving you from a fearful fate."

He shuddered as he thought of that day of agony and despair, and then they talked of Rupert, and finally of Dora; then Hester

"I don't think she is dead, even yet; for somehow, ever since you told me of her first, I can see her flitting before me like a vision of light and beauty; and last night I

dreamt of her.' His face lit up; a glow came into his cheeks, as he asked, oh, so fervently: "And

what did you dream?" I dreamt that I saw the Argyll sailing in a sea as clear as crystal; the sky above was blue and cloudless, and the great ship looked like a snowy bird, which, with fullspread wings, skimmed the ocean with

its snowy breast. Yes, yes. Well?" "Well, after awhile the sun dropped into the sea, and then a storm—oh, such a storm! dark, dismal and dangerous-swept up from the south, and the ocean, as if in terror, blanched as white as chalk.

"For a while the storm was so thick that I could not see the ship, but when a flash of vivid lightning lit up the scene, nothing met my eye save two boats struggling with the

"Two boats?" echoed Tracy, worked up into something akin to fervor by the girl's earnestness. "Yes, two boats," repeated Hester, "and one of them drifted off in the darkness, but the other, which contained Dora, for I thought I knew her, followed a star that blazed far to the westward, and then a mist came between. When it cleared away, as it did presently, I saw her standing amid a group of seamen in the loveliest land eyes

ever beheld. Oh, it was so beautiful that it startled me, and I awoke."
"And what do you make out of this?" he

That she has been rescued, of course, He shook his head negatively.

"Don't you think so ?"
"No; I interpret it in a different way.
That beautiful land is the Paradise beyond he grave; I can make nothing else out of

They discussed the matter for some time, and Hester, with a woman's persistency, at length convinced him that there was hope in her vision, and that, possibly, the enchanted island was more than an airy nothing,

CHAPTER XXII.

THE DREAD NIGHT.

For various reasons we are constrained to go back to the night on which the Argyll perished. It was a terrible night—a night of gloom, of wreck, of disaster; a night fit to place at the head of a catalogue of terror,

and one never to be forgotten by those who experienced any of its fury. From dusk to dawn a tempest swept the Gulf waters as with a besom of destruction, and its flight being from west to east, the peninsula of Florida felt its influence in the uprooting of trees and the overturn-

ing of the more frail houses. Just as the sun dipped out of sight the Argyll passed Florida Keys, the light on the furthest point of land being clearly discernible to the watch on deck.

What do you think of the weather? asked one of the sailors of Jack Atwell,

who stood at the binnacle. Not much," was the reply; "the air is so close, and that cloud out yonder is rather threatening; it has grown wonderfully

large within the last half-hour." Always hate this coast," said the other: it appears to me as if there is death in the Gulf Stream for me." Atwell smiled incredulously, and said

You are not so superstitious as that, are 'I don't care what you call it, Atwell. I've always had a lurking fear of this Flori-da coast. The first time I ever made this run-and that's close on fifteen years ago-I was caught in a squall just about here comewhere, and the old hulk, Morning Glory, went to pieces under my feet. Three years ago on the Miranda I had the same uck in about the same place, and you know there is said to be a mystic something in number three. At any rate, I fear the next quall that hits me hereabouts will be my

Even Atwell seemed impressed with th sailor's presentiment, and, instead of laugh ing outright, as he would have done under

circumstances almost similar, he said 'Morgan, it ain't right to give up to such they unfit a man for duty when the hour of trial comes; but I wouldn't care a penny for a gale here, or anywhere else for that matter, if I hadn't a sort of guar dianship over the young lady—Mrs. Cuth-bert. That kind of hampers a fellow in, you know, and makes him pray for good

"Yes," Morgan replied, "a man can make a shift, but the women, poor devils, have no chance—it's die with them; and if a fellow tries to save them, they both drown to-

The captain, coming on deck at this moment, interrupted the conversation by or-dering every stitch of canvas to be closely

'We'll find bare poles broad enough be fore many hours," he said to his mate, as he glanced at the black monster that had crept

up the sky almost to the zenith.

He was not a false prophet, for, ere the half-hour had expired, the storm broke forth in all its maddening fury, with a shriek like that of a fiendish legion, fresh from the revels of Tartarus. The masts bent like whip-poles; the sea swept over the decks in a blinding sheet of foam; and every joint and timber creaked and groaned as if the old vessel was a sentient thing, and felt that the hour of doom had come.

Dora, seated in her state-room, dreaming of the happiness that would follow her meeting with her husband, heard the first attack of the tempest as one hears sounds in dream, in which consciousness is deadened by sleep. It came so suddenly, and so fierce, it was not until the heavy lurch of the vessel left her body stunned upon the floor that she realized fully the danger of

her situation. Staggering to her feet, she made an effort to reach the deck, but, before she had cross

ed the threshold of her room, Jack Atwell

came bounding into the cabin.
"Don't be frightened," he said; "'tis only a black squall and will soon be over.'

But, Mr. Atwell, it sounds so terribly violent," she exclaimed; "don't you think there is danger of us going down?"

"Yes there is described." "Yes, there is danger, of course," he replied; "but it will have to last a long time or the old Argyll will weather it out. I have come down to gather the ladies together until the storm blows over."

"For what purpose?" asked Dora, her face blanched white as death.

"To prevent you from becoming terrified

by being all alone." Where are the others?"

"In the captain's cabin."

She followed him along the passage, groping her way, for the lights had been extinguished, and flually she felt the pressure of a woman's hand.

She knew, even in the darkness, that it was that of the captain's wife, and she was quick to ask :

'Do you think there is any danger?" "I don't know," was the reply; "the storm is a fearful one."

"If the worst comes to the worst," whis-pered Jack Atwell, in Dora's ear, "I will come for you. Don't stir, for your life, un-

She promised him she would not, and then

he hurried away. When his footsteps could be no longer heard, she fell upon her knees, and prayed, oh, so fervently for a calm, for safety, in that hour of peril—that she might not be allowed to die there amid that wilderness of waters—that she might be spared at least to see her husband once more, if only to say

farewell forever. The thought of going down into the depths alone—of closing her eyes in the green waters, and of sleeping away the years among the sea-weed and sands far, so very far, away from her home and those dear to her, filled her with an agony that

almost unsettled her reason. Not a word was spoken by the four women who knelt there in the darkness. It was not a time for words. Each was engaged in poor humanity's last resource—

The moments flew, and still the storm raged, and still the timbers creaked and groaned, and still hope fluttered in the breasts of the drenched crew who clung to

At length the crisis came; the Argyll had sprung aleak, and was rapidly fill-

"Man the pumps!" shouted the captain, as soon as the fact had been made known to him; "man the pumps! There is a chance yet." It proved but a slim one, as the water

gained fast upon them, notwithstanding their most strenuous efforts, and two poor seamen were washed from the decks into

eternity.
"She's going, Atwell," said the captain, after a while; "you had better look after your charge."

Jack nodded assent, and ran down to the

cabin, while the brave skipper shouted:
"Prepare to lower the boats and provision them!"
"Ay! ay!" was the ready response, as a number of men left the pumps to carry out

the command. The wind was dying off now, but the sea was still running high, and those who thought of reaching safety through the boats grew weak of heart whenever their eyes rested on the seething, rushing tumult

"If the old creature would hold life until daybreak, there would be some hope of a poat living in such waters; but as it

He did not finish the sentence; the thought of his wife, and of the desperate nature of the risk he must soon ask her to share, choked his utterance, and he said to his mate: "What do you think of a raft,

"Well enough, sir, but there would be no clinging to a raft in such a sea.' 'Do you think not?"

"Yes, sir, I do think so;" then Osborne added: "As for the ladies, they couldn't hope for a place on it. They would be washed off, sure.' Yes, the captain assented to this, but remarked that the two boats would be so crowded that going into them appeared as

hopeless as stepping into the ocean.

"But they needn't be, captain," replied Osborne. The raft will do for the men, who can cling to it. I'd rather take my chances on it than in the boats, and I guess o would almost any of the rest.

It was so arranged, and in half an hour after, and when the Argyll was settling fast, the raft was completed and launched, with considerable different settlements. with considerable difficulty. Meanwhile Atwell had prepared Dora for the worst. She bore it better, much better, than he had expected, and in answer to his expression, "God will protect us in the open boat as well as on the ship," she said:
'Something, I know not what, whispers hope into my heart, and I feel I am not going to perish so near my husband; would be too fearful, too wicked to think

The old sailor did not smile at this evidence of faith in the goodness of the Master, as he doubtless would have done on an ocasion less solemn, but acquiesced in the belief by a nod, and gave Dora his hand to

help her up the dark companionway.

As the Argyll filled she, of course, became heavier, and, as a consequence, tossed less than at the outset, and made the traversing of her deck an easy matter, even to Dora. The first boat was made ready to clear away, with three days' provisions and six men in it, when the captain said to At-

"Jack, take Mrs. Cuthbert in that boat! I will wait until the last." "But your wife, captain?"
"Will go with me. Go now: there is no

time to be lost. God bless you all."
They did so; and then the lashings were cut, and they were adrift. The waves took up their frail bark and swept it out of sight of the sinking vessel in an incredibly short space of time. Dora clung firmly to Atwell, who, in turn, wound one of his strong arms about her, and then—as if an omen of good-the clouds parted away to the west, nd a single star gleamed through the rift.

The young wife saw it, and it made her strong of heart, but she did not speak, or point it out, to the seven men who were her companions. Presently Atwell saw it, too, and he

shouted out the glad intelligence to the rest. "The storm is over, boys," he said; "by morning we'll be picked up. (To be continued-Commenced in No. 114.)



A CONFESSION

BY NELLIE B.

Frank, I love you! -dearly, fondly, More than words can e'er express; Thoughts might fail and tongue might falter, If my love I would confess.

Life is love—without it, darkness
Would o'ershadow every part;
But its rays bring joy and gladness
To this true and faithful heart.

Then come to me, through joy and sadness, Summer heat or Winter rain, You can bring me hight and gladness Pure, unalloyed with woe or pain.

Caught in Silken Toils.

BY MARY REED CROWELL.

A VERY elegant breakfast parlor it was, that of the Westcliffs; and this morning of which I write, it looked, if such a thing were possible, more thoroughly comfortable than usual.

To be sure, the contrast between the driving storm of sleet without, and the warm, delicately-perfumed air within, between the utter cheerlessness of the icy-clad avenue, and the perfect home-cheeriness that pervaded the large, lofty apartment, might account for it; and young Earle Westeliff, as he sauntered leisurely in, as the cuckoo sung out nine o'clock, yawned most appreciatingly over the glowing, crack-

I'm a little late this morning, I see.

Have you been waiting, mother?"

It was a pleasant, finely-modulated voice, that matched well with Earle Westcliff's handsome face and graceful figure. As he spoke, Mrs. Westcliff arose from a low fauteuil by the fireside; a large, fair woman, in a sweeping black cashmere morningrobe; with a fair, blonde complexion, light crepe hair, and cold, steely eyes.

Not a whit like her son in manners or appearance; only a cold-hearted, high-headed woman, whose money and position alone took her where Earle Westcliff's sunny temper and winsome sweetness would have made him welcome.

"Late? Yes, you are seven minutes after time. I suppose, however, I should have looked for this tardiness, considering the nature of the we agreed to final-

ly settle this morning. She held her Lady Elgin in her hand while she spoke; then, with a slow, almost severe gesture, snapped the case, and returned it to her belt

A light cloud shadowed Earle's face for a

"I wish I could forget it. Shall we discuss these broiled quall first? or the question of my marriage?"

He essayed to laugh, as he drew a chair "I hardly think Miss Paxton would feel

honored by your remark, Earle. The lady I wish you to regard as the future Mrs. "Then I am to understand your views are unalterable, mother? Pardon me for interrupting, but I am sorry you will not listen to any of my objections."

Earle spoke bitterly, yet very courteously, and Mrs. Westcliff went on, more coldly

"You know the provisions of your fa-ther's will as well as I do; and I presume Miss Jessie Paxton has been taught to regard her parents' wishes in this affair. I am unfortunate, indeed, in that I possess for my son the only one who wishes to set aside a dying man's latest request."

And Mrs. Westcliff's wide-bordered lawn

mouchoir, that had been dangling from her | wife-if he could win Miss Nelson. bracelet by its massive ebony holder as gracefully pressed against her eyes.

Earle bit his lip in momentary anger; then, by a great effort, cleared his brow and essayed to feel, as he certainly did not, at He had been used to such scenes with

his mother, as long as he could remember; when she, with a sort of icy tyranny compelled him to yield acquiescence to her Now, to be sure, when he was twenty-

six, it seemed ridiculous that he was not free to marry whom he pleased. In a mea sure he was free, perfectly free; then, if he used his own discretion, and did not unite his fortune with Jessie Paxton, all his share of his father's abundance was to be with-He never had seen Jessie Paxton, nor she

him; but they were to meet now, and that was why the question of the marriage was to be settled at once. For Jessie's mother had telegraphed to Earle's mother for Earle

Now, when the ice was fairly broken between the two, mother and son, and the question settled itself, as it seemed, they both ate their breakfast in thoughtful si-Then, with a pleasant "Good-morning," Earle went out from the room.

The storm was still driving against the windows as furiously as ever, but Earle did not regard it, as he went up the avenue, and only buttoned his fur-lined collar higher around his ears.

The telegraph office was not far, and his dispatch to Mrs. Paxton soon sent. Then he went home, and sought his mother at

'I think it best to tell you at once what I have done, and what I propose doing. I can not allow myself to take for my wife this young lady I never have seen, conse quently neither know nor care for. I have telegraphed Mrs. Paxton that I am sorry I be so discourteous, but I can not bring Miss Jessie here under the supposition that she is to be my wife. I am going away-to

Then Mrs. Westcliff slowly gathered her sweeping skirt in one hand, and, in what she intended to be the awfulest, iciest displeasure, strode from the room, speechless. And Earle, wounded by her unsympathetic coldness, walked straight to the office and bought a ticket, not for a passage to Cuba, but for the West.

It was a quiet, ugly little town where the Express halted for five minutes' refreshments; and Earle Westcliff, as he stretched in his seat, wondered if aught could be less pleasurable than a ride in the cars on a raw,

gusty winter day. There wasn't a single pretty woman in the cars. One or two elderly married ones, each with a restless baby, and a number of plain, countrified-looking people occupied the car. Earle had his seat to himself, half of which he occupied, the other half being unlawfully piled with a robe and a small Russia leather valise, both bearing his full name in staring white letters.

Discontented, and almost miserable, Earle sat ungracefully back in one corner, with his hat jammed over his eyes; then, of a sudden, he found himself listening to the sweetest voice he ever had heard in his

"Oh, thank you, Conductor Elverson! This seat will do nicely, if the gentleman will kindly remove his baggage."

Wouldn't Earle remove his baggage? and didn't he, with wonderful alacrity? And then she sat down beside him, that sweet-voiced girl, with the tiny, dimpled mouth and tiny milk white test. and tiny, milk-white teeth.

Earle could have told you in less than five minutes how deeply blue her long-lashed eyes were, and how her purple black hair rippled and waved as it floated unconfined

over her shoulders.

He was a connoisseur, too, in regard to ladies' toilets, and a glance sufficed him to discover that she wore a dainty lace-trimmed black Cashmere dress, with the most exquisite silk polonaise; that her gloves were Alexandres, four buttons, and cer-

tainly No. 6s.

Altogether, Earle found her to be the prettiest, most charming girl he ever had seen; so vivacious, yet so thoroughly modest and ladylike.

Then, very naturally, he grew to wondering what those initials on her handkerchief stood for—"C. N." Finally, when they had talked themselves into very good friends he ventured to ask her. friends, he ventured to ask her. She laughed and blushed.

"'N' is for Nelson-not so beautiful a name as your own, Mr. Westcliffe," and she pointed to his satchel.

"Allow me to hope the owner of the name you admire will find equal favor with you, Miss Nelson, and if it is not asking too much, may I offer my services as far as we travel together? Are you bound through to New York ?"

"Clear through, and alone, although Conductor Elverson kindly takes charge of me so far as he goes. I was determined to come, you see, Mr. Westeliff, although my cavalier refused to escort me, at the last minute, and my trunks packed, too.

She laughed so daintily, and looked so coquettishly at Earle, that he would willingly have offered to punch that derelict fel-low's head. What a fool any man was who would not go through fire and water to serve so fair a girl!

So I came myself, you see, minus that

all-important adjunct to travel." So he would have company all the way to New York—seven hours ride yet—and his heart bounded with the delightful prospect. He actually wondered if he was in love with this strange girl, this Miss Nelson? How curious were Cupid's freaks; what strange havoc the little god did make! Why could he not have thus loved Jessie Paxton, whom everybody was so anxious he should love? Instead, he momentarily felt convinced that Miss Nelson was the sweetest, most charming girl he ever had seen. Such a delicious ride as that was; how perfectly changed was the gloomy, dusty, gusty day; how daintily Miss Nelson's fingers toyed with the homemade iced sponge-cake in her satchel, and how he devoured the piece she laughingly offered him-he, Earl Westcliff, the aristo-

But all good times have an end; so had those seven hours; and when Earl had escorted her to the Hoffman House, and begged to be allowed to call on her at her friend's residence, he felt that his destiny was at stake:

He did not go straight home; in truth, he had no disposition to see his severe lady mother, and tell her he did not go to Cuba after all, but that he had found his future

But, after a bath, and a change of toilet, and a good dinner at Delmonico'show such things do affect the men!-Earle concluded he would go home, and set about his love business in a serious manner.

The drawing-room was rather dimly lighted, and he entered unannounced; his mother met him half-way down the apart-

"Earle—you naughty boy! I thought you positively refused to escort Jessie—"
Here she suddenly turned up the gas, and then Earle saw, first, Mrs. Westcliff's radiant face; then, Miss Nelson herself, all blushes and smiles.

'You needn't be surprised; it is really - and Jessie Paxton came forward gracefully. "I came from the Hoffman House quicker than you did, that's all.

But Earle was surprised; surprised almost out of his customary courtly grace.

But I thought you said you were Miss She laughingly interrupted him

"No, I did not say so. I said 'C. N.' meant Carrie Nelson—my sister who is married, you know, and one of whose handkerchiefs I had with me, by mis-She was so saucy, and—so sweet; what could Earle do but join her in laughing over

their joke? Of course I knew you in a moment, by the name on your luggage; but you will forgive me—won't you?" He did forgive her; and he married her

ROYAL KEENE.

California Detective: The Witches of New York.

A ROMANCE OF FOUR GIRLS' LIVES.

BY ALBERT W. AIKEN, AUTHOR OF "OVERLAND KIT." "WOLF DEMON," "ACE OF SPADES," "RED MAZEPPA," ETC.

> CHAPTER VII. AN UNEXPECTED MEETING.

At the Hudson River Railway Depot the cars of the 6 P. M. Pacific express were

By the gate leading to the train stood a brown-bearded gentleman, plainly dressed, apparently waiting for some one, for he cast anxious glances around, and every now and then consulted his watch.

Why the deuce don't he come?" he queried, probably for the twentieth time, as he again consulted his time-piece.

ten minutes more. I can't go without in-structions; that is very plain."

The brown bearded gentleman peered earnestly into the faces of the crowd who were passing by him to take seats in the train, but his inspection was evidently without results.

As the impatient watcher tapped nervously with his foot, and fumbled with his watch-chain, another gentleman, who had just entered the depot, sauntered carelessly to his side, and stood there, apparently

without any particular object.

A single, piercing glance the brown-bearded man gave at the new-comer, and then again resumed his watch upon the little throng pouring forward into the cars.

The second man was about the medium hight, dark hair, cut short, and dark eyes: his face cleanly shaven. He was dressed very plain, almost poorly, in dark clothes, and wore a dark cap, pulled over his fore-

head.
"Why don't he come?" again muttered the watcher, with another look at his time-piece. "Only five minutes more. I shall

miss this train, sure!"
"Getting tired of waiting?" said the poor-

ly-dressed man at his side, calmly.

The watcher turned and looked at the questioner in utter surprise; but, as he surveyed him from head to foot, the look upon his face alternations. his face changed from one of wonder to one

"Well, you can take me into camp for all I'm worth!" he cried, in amazement. "Blessed if I knew you!"

"Is my get-up as complete as all that?" said the other, laughing.
"That's so; I took a good look at you when you came up, too," the brown-bearded

"I thought I would try it on you; if I succeeded in deceiving the eyes of the sharpest detective in New York, I can hard-

ly fail with anybody else."

"No humbug, you know," the other said, but still with a smile on his face at the com-

"Oh, honest Injun! fame speaks in spite

of your modesty."
"But, what is the reason of this get-up?"
"The man that I'm after is a cool, desperate hand if he wants to be. When he finds out that I have struck his trail in earnest, he may think that the easiest way to baffle me will be to get come reach to be the control of the contr me will be to get some rough to lay me out. In the game I'm playing I don't intend to lose a single trick if I can help it; so, for

the present, James Bright, the California detective will mysteriously disappear."

The new-comer, who had, by such simple means as cutting off his hair, changing his clothes, and giving himself a clean shave, so altered his outward appearance, was, in deed, the man who had sworn such bitter vengeance on David Van Rensselaer.

His companion, the quick-eyed gentleman with the flowing brown beard, was Richard Cranshaw, by common report reputed to be one of the cutest detectives in he country.
"You're wise," Cranshaw said; "nothing like being prepared. But, what instruc-tions? About time for the train to move

off, you know."

Bright took a letter from his pocket and put it into the hands of the detective.

"You will find all instructions written in this," he said, as he handed the detective the letter. "I partially followed the trail up myself three years ago. I have noted down all the points I gained. All I discovered, though, were the facts about the birth and parentage of the child. I didn't hunt up the girl herself. But now the case has altered. We must have the girl; work to find her; that is our strong point. Once the girl is in my hands the game is won."

"I'll do my best; you have written out the instructions in full?"

"Yes, you change cars at Rome. Sandy Creek is only a little bit of a place," Bright said. "Of course be careful not to let any one guess what you're after, if you can help it have been supposed to the said." My bird may possibly be in communication with some one up there, although I rdly think it possible. But, if he should

put him on his guard." Then the bell rung; the detective jumped on board the train, and, as it moved off. Bright sauntered slowly out of the depot. So much of the train laid," he mutter ed; "it won't be very long before the ex-plosion comes. Let me find the heir, and then, Mr. David Van Rensselaer, look out

happen to be, a hint of your search would

Bright crossed over to Broadway and walked down that broad thoroughfare. Slowly he walked onward, busy in medi-

Just as he crossed Twenty-fourth street, he came face to face with a lady walking in the opposite direction

A single glance the keen-eyed detective gave at the face of the lady, and he stood still in speechless astonishment. The lady, who was both young and pretty, never noticed the stare, but passed on up

he street. Bright turned and looked after her. "Now, then, you young feller, will you get out of the way, or do you want a firstclass funeral?"

The above speech, hurled indignantly at Bright by a coachman, who had been compelled to rein up his horses suddenly to keep from running over the astonished man, recalled the detective to himself.

"All right, Johnny; go ahead with your mule team," the detective said, returning to the curbstone, and following in the footsteps of the woman who had so strangely attracted his attention.

"It's either her or her ghost!" Bright muttered, as he walked onward. "She's changed a great deal, but it's her face. I'd bet all my Young America No. 2 stock on it. Judging from her dress, the world has gone well with her. She looks gay as a pink, and ain't she pretty?"

The cool detective smiled as he put the question to himself. The lady walked briskly onward, little thinking that her footsteps were so closely

"It would be funny if I should stumble on her just in this accidental way," Bright muttered, communing with himself as he followed up the chase. "Sleeping or waking, followed up the chase. "Sleeping or waking for three years that face has been constant ly in my mind. In the diggings, every time I've seen the gold panning out from the cradle, I've also seen her face smiling at me from the muddy water. Well, now, to drop on her in this unexpected way is reallly what I call luck, and no mistake.

On went the lady; close behind followed the detective, until at last she entered a store. Bright remained outside on the watch After a few minutes she came out, with a little parcel in her hand, and proceeded to retrace her steps, going down Broadway. Still the detective followed.

She turned into Twenty-third street, went down the street quite a little distance, and tripped up the steps of a modest little brick

"Run to earth, by jingo!" cried Bright, in glee. He had followed cautiously; drop-

ping a little in the rear, so as to not excite the suspicion of the girl that she was watched.

The door closed behind the lady, and the detective stood outside in the gloom, gazing up at the house.

Now, how the deuce am I going to find out what she is or who she is—whether she lives here or is only making a visit?" he queried, as he looked up at the house. "Well, impudence must carry me through

He ascended the steps and rung the After a few moments the door opened, and a woman, evidently the servant of the

house, appeared.
"Miss Jones," said the detective, blandly. The servant girl stared at the questioner the confident tone in which he spoke puzzled her.

An' is it Miss Jones?" she asked, doubtfully. "Yes, Miss Jones," the detective repeated.

"An' does she live here?" asked the girl, her voice betraying strong proof of southof-Ireland birth.

"That is what I want to find out."
"Oh, I thought from the way ye axed, ye knew she lived here, an' it was bothered I was, for no one of that name lives here at all," the girl said, her mind evidently re-

lieved. "But the young lady that went in just now, dressed in black, with a red sash—"

"Shure, her name isn't Jones!"
"No?" cried the detective, in apparent

astonishment.
"That's Miss York, the stage actress— Miss Coralie York.

"And does she live here?"
"Av coorse she does!" the girl replied.
The detective had discovered what he

wished to learn.
"Well, now! I really thought it was
Miss Jones, a very intimate friend of mine.

The ways corrected trought I made a mistake. I'm very sorry to trouble you," and the detective took his depar-

"Shure, he's a rael gintleman," the girl said, as she closed the door.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE MASQUERADE. Just about an hour after the interview at the depot between the two detectives, the Western express rolled into the build-

From one of the cars came a tall, stately old gentleman, with long iron-gray hair and a flowing beard of the same color. His face was bronzed almost to the color of Indian. In his hand he carried a small car-

As he stepped upon the platform, he looked inquiringly around him as if he expected to meet some one.

Hardly had the old gentleman paused upon the platform, when from the little knot of people gathered at the nearest door, Van Rensselaer's ally, Mr. Bishop, ad

He came forward directly to the old "Have I the pleasure of addressing Mr. Hartright?" he asked, of the old gentle-

That is my name, sir," the stranger re plied.

"Allow me to introduce myself; my name is Bishop; Mr. Van Rensselaer de-puted me to meet you at the train." "Mr. Van Rensselaer is not here, then?" "No, sir; he has been called out of town on important business." Bishop answered. "He desired me to tell you that he was very much disappointed at not being able to meet you, but the business was urgent and required his personal attention; in the mean time, until his return, he requested me to fill his place and see that you were comfortably bestowed. Mr. Van Rensselaer also wished me to say that he deeply regretted he was unable to entertain you at his mansion, but hoped that you would ac

cept his hospitality at any hotel which might seem fit to you." "I am such a stranger in New York that

really I do not know where I had better go,' the old gentleman said. "If you will permit me to arrange the matter—that is, if you have no particular

None at all." "I would suggest the St. Nicholas."
"That will do."

"Have you any baggage?"
"Nothing but this," the old man replied.
"I am a true traveler, and do not believe in much luggage, although my traveling has been mostly done in the jungles of In-

"I'll call a coach."
Bishop did so, and the two were driven at once to the hotel. The New Yorker attended to seeing the

old gentleman bestowed in a comfortable room, and then the two had supper. The repast over, the two adjourned to the reading-room, and drawing their chairs to the window, gazed out on brilliant,

flashing Broadway "Half-past eight," said Bishop, consulting his watch. "I suppose that you feel fatigued by your journey and will retire

"Oh, no," the old gentleman replied;
"I am so used to travel and hardships that the trip from Buffalo has not tired me in "I was just going to suggest that, if you were not too much fatigued, we might visit the Academy of Music. There is a grand masquerade ball given there to-night; I was presented with a couple of tickets this often on the world cover the second that the second that the second the second that the second the second that the second tha

afternoon. It would serve to pass the evening away." "That's an excellent idea," responded Hartright. "I think I should enjoy that. I haven't been to a masquerade for years.

lieve. We can get there by half-past nine or ten easily enough.' "But will we not require some dis-guises?" the old gentleman asked. "We can stop at a costumer's and get some dominoes and masks on our way up; we pass right by one," Bishop answered. I suppose we might as well set out at

"This is to be a magnificent affair, I be

once 'Certainly." The two left the hotel, summoned a carriage, and drove toward the Academy of Music.

On their way thither, they stopped at a costumer's, and procured two black dominoes and masks.

When the two, after donning their disguises, made their entry into the Academy, they found that the floor was already well filled with groups of gayly-dressed maskers.
"A brilliant scene, isn't it?" Bishop remarked, taking the mask from his face, as if to gaze with more freedom upon the

ever-changing throng.

"Yes, quite dazzling," the old man replied, and as he gazed upon the merry groups, his attention was attracted by a couple passing near him, a man and woman, both in black, and on the back of the

man's sable domino was a large red heart. The two were chatting gayly to-gether; a few words spoken by the wo-man's lips reached the ears of the old

With a quick, nervous motion, Hartright laid his hand upon the arm of Bishop. "Come, let us walk onward," he said, a strange nervousness visible in his manner.

"Certainly," Bishop replied, wondering at the tone of the old man.

Hartright followed directly in the wake of the couple in black. Bishop noticed the red heart on the back of the man's domino, and a half-smile came over his face. A few

minutes' walk convinced him that his companion was following the two. The two in black did not go far, but turned and retraced their steps, coming almost face to face with the old savant and

The man in black shot a quick glance at Bishop as he passed him—a glance seeming-ly of recognition. The savant did not notice the look; he had eyes only for the wo-

Three times up and down the hall, the old man and Bishop followed in the footsteps of the two in black. The old gentleman seemed to be getting

more and more nervous. Bishop determined to hazard a question.

"You seem to have taken an interest in that couple in black; do you know them?" he asked.

"I don't know-I can't tell," the old man answered, nervously; "it seems impossible,

Again he fixed his eyes on the woman, and sighed deeply.

"I don't understand how you could recognize either of them," Bishop said, puzzled at the strange behavior of the old man. "The masks conceal their faces and black cowns their faces."

"As the girl passed me, I heard her speak," the old man replied. "It is nearly twenty years since I have heard that voice, yet I recognized the tones in an instant." Bishop was thunderstruck.
"What the deuce does it all mean?" he

muttered between his teeth. "How can he know the woman?"
"I would give a great deal to be able to speak with her, and satisfy the suspicion that has arisen in my breast. Do you think I shall be able to speak with her? Do you know of any means by which I can gain five minutes' conversation with her? I would willingly pay a drop of my blood for each word, old as I am."

A strange excitement, had spized the old.

each word, old as I am."

A strange excitement had seized the old man, which completely puzzled Bishop; yet that astute gentleman rather prided himself on his skill in guessing motives.

"Oh, I don't think there will be much difficulty about that," the New Yorker replied. "There is a certain license allowable in a masquarade."

"For heaven's sake get me a chance to speak with her if it be possible!" cried the

old man, hastily.

"Well, I'll try," Bishop said, more and more amazed. "And now I look at the gentleman I have an idea that I know him. Just wait; when they turn I'll go forward and speak to him. Then, when I draw him aside, you can improve the chance to speak to the lady."

That will do," the old man said, hurriedly When the two turned in their promenade old man, the New Yorker barred the way of the gentleman so completely wrapped in

the black domino. 'Can I have a word with you, sir?" he The man in black bowed, whispered few words in the ear of the lady, then ster little apart with Bishop, while Har

improving the advantage, slowly app ed the masked woman. Old Nick himself is playing you to-night," Bishop said in the ear of other, as they drew apart from the rest. "What do you mean?" asked the

Van Rensselaer. 'Why, he's got an idea into his head that he knows that young female that's with

guised man, and the voice betrayed David

"Knows her?" asked Van Rensselaer, in astonishment. "Yes; he wants to speak with her; she's "Yes; he wants to speak with the your decoy, I suppose?"

"I hope so; but she has not yet consented. Of course she knows nothing of my scheme, and thinks it is only a joke."

"Hallo!" exclaimed Bishop; "see! the

two are in conversation." CHAPTER IX.

IN THE SNARE. THE lady, Van Rensselaer's companion, who was no other than Coralie York, had remained motionless, gazing with listless. eyes upon the motley throng which sur-rounded her, when she suddenly became conscious that a tall stranger, clad in a black domino, had approached her as if with the

wish to speak. She raised her eyes in astonishment and made a slight movement as if she would re-

"Do not fear, lady," the stranger said, removing the mask from his face and revealing the gray beard and bronzed features of the savant. "I wished to speak with you very much. I trust you will pardon the librate that I are notice of the savant. erty that I, an entire stranger, have taken in addressing you. A moment since when you passed me, busy in conversation, the tones of your voice fell upon my ears; those tones brought back to me the memories of days long since buried in the grave of time.

The thought came instantly into my mind that I knew you—not as you now are, a wo-man—but as a child."

Coralie listened in astonishment. Her first thought on the approach of the stran-ger had been to avoid him, but when she lis-tened to his words and beheld his calm and noble face, she saw at once that she had no-

You think that you have known me?" she said. "Yes; but far away from this great city,

many years ago."
"And you recognized me by my voice?"

"But are you sure that I am the person you take me for?" "No, not sure; but let me see your face and then I am certain that I can tell

whether you are the person or not," the old savant said. "You really wish to see my face?" Cora-

hie asked, slowly.

"Yes, for in your face I shall be sure to trace the resemblance of the child I once loved as if she were my own daughter, if you are indeed the same, and something within whispers me that you are."

Coralie hesitated for a moment; she did not know how to act. Van Rensselaer had pointed the tall stranger out to her as the old friend of his father—the subject of the wager which he wished her help to win. If she yielded to Van Rensselaer's request, she would be able to discover whether the property of the control of the property o she yielded to Van Rensselaer's request, sne would be able to discover whether she was the child spoken of by the stranger or not.

"If I am the child, grown to womanhood, what would be my age now?" Coralie asked, breaking the silence.

The old man thought for a moment, calculated the time that had elapsed, then

spoke:
 "Twenty-five," he answered.
Coralie started in amazement. The old man had named her very age.

Hartright noticed the movement.
"Is that your age?" he asked.

"And you are an orphan?"

"And have been so since your child-"Father and mother you have never

"Never," the girl replied, sadly.
"I am sure that you are the one I seek!"
the old man said, in a tone of firm convic-

tion.

"Perhaps so; and yet it hardly seems possible that fate could have thus strangely brought us together after so many years of separation," Coralie said, doubtfully.

"Fortune is strangely capricious sometimes," he answered. "But I pray you yield to my request. You are the child I seek I am super Every word you speak

seek, I am sure. Every word you speak strengthens me in my conviction "Let me speak a moment to the gentle-man who is with me, and then I will de-cide," the girl said, suddenly, after a long

pause.
"I shall wait your decision with great impatience," the old man said, earnestly.
"In a few minutes you shall have my an-

Coralie advanced toward Van Rensselaer; he, perceiving her movement, left Bishop and came to her.

and came to her.

"I see that you have commenced operations," he said, laughing; "have you decided then to act as my ally in this jest?"

"Not yet decided," she said, doubtfully.

"I am not sure that I fully understand the part which you wish me to play."

"Why, it is simple enough. The wager

"Why, it is simple enough. The wager is to induce the old gentleman to leave this ball-room and go to the house of a friend of mine, there to drink a glass of wine. That wins the wager. If you only think of some jesting device to induce him to go with you, I will be in the carrier of a research. I will be in the carriage of course, so that there will be no impropriety."

"The device is already at hand," the girl

said, slowly.
"Indeed!" Van Rensselaer was astonish-

ed.

"The old gentleman overheard me speaking to you as we passed him sometime ago in the ball-room; he fancied from the tones of my voice that in former days he knew me, and he wishes to see my face, so as to satisfy himself whether his guess is true or false."

Excellent!" Van Rensselaer exclaimed: "fortune aids us; no need to puzzle our wits here. Tell the old gentleman that you will remove your mask and let him see your face if he will leave the ball-room and come with us. Explain that it is only to the leave of a friend of mine"

"I do not know whether to consent or not," the girl said, doubtfully.

"Why, Coralie, haven't you any womanly curiosity?" asked Van Rensselaer, in astonishment. "Haven't you really a desired tonishment. "Haven't you really a desire to know whether this old gentleman is right

or wrong in his surmise? "Yes, the temptation is a very great one,"

Coralie said, slowly.
"Yield to it then; who knows but what he may be able to reveal to you something of great importance?" Van Rensselaer said, persuasively "I will go," the girl said, decidedly.

"Good; our coach is all ready."
"I will tell the old gentleman."
Coralie returned to the old savant. "Let me venture to hope that you have decided to grant my request?" Hartright

said, earnestly, Yes, but on one condition."

"I accept, no matter what the condition is," the savant exclaimed, hastily. Oh, it is a very simple one; only to

leave this room and come with me—or with us, I should have said, for the gentleman yonder, my escort, will go with us."

"I accept the condition, and the sooner we depart the better. I feel certain that you are the one whom I seek.'

"You shall soon know the truth."
Coralie beckoned, and Van Ronsselaer
approached. Disguised as he was, he had little fear of being recognized by the old man; so that in the future, when they

should meet, his part in the present transaction would be unknown. "We are ready," Coralie said.

Van Renssalaer did not speak, only bowed and led the way to the door. Coralie and Hartright followed, while Bishop

brought up the rear. I suppose that there will be no objection

to my friend accompanying us?" the old gentleman said, referring to Bishop.

"None in the least," the girl answered.
In a few words the savant explained to Bishop whither he was going, and his object, and requested his company, to which

Bishop of course assented. The four left the ball-room and passed

Hardly had they passed through the door, when two men, without disguises of any kind, but in plain, dark clothes, only wearing black masks over their faces, detached hemselves from the crowd and followed the little party of four.

Down through the passage way into the street they followed, removing the masks from their faces as they emerged into the

The four were just getting into a carriage. The two men paused on the steps, until the carriage drove off.

What's our game now?" asked the taller of the two, who, as the light from the gas-lights fall upon his face, we recognize as

Joe Oward.

"Trump their trick," replied the other, laconically. It was the California detective, Bright, who spoke.

"You mean, follow 'em?"
"No; I mean to get ahead of them."
Then the detective drew a little whistle

Then the detective drew a little whistle and blew a shrill note upon it.

In a second or so a covered buggy, which had been standing on the other side of the street, drew up in front of the Academy.

A bright-looking negro drove the buggy.

"Now, jump in, Joe!" cried Bright, springing into the carriage, and taking the reins from the driver's hands.

Oward got in at once

Oward got in at once.
"Wait at the stable, Ned," the detective

"You know where to go?" Oward asked, in astonishment.

"Yes, to the worst hole in all big New York, John Allen's dance house in Water street. Get up!"

And way they went.

(To be continued—Commenced in No. 119.)

The Hidden Treasure.

BY C. D. CLARK

In the flush of a beautiful day in June a young girl was seen riding rapidly through a belt of timber, apparently in great haste. Her eyes wandered from side to side, as she rode, as if fearing danger; and indeed there was good cause, for this was the day of Tory ascendency in the Carolinas, and the country swarmed with predatory bands, who did not know the name of mercy as applied to a Whig, were it man or woman. applied to a Whig, were it man or woman. The girl rode gracefully and well, sitting erect in her saddle, and controlling the motions of her spirited steed with the hand of

"Steady, Nemo," she said, as the brave black swerved a little. "There is nothing

Even as she spoke, the bushes parted and three men sprung suddenly forth, one of whom caught her horse by the bridle and brought him to a stand. Both were clad in the green uniform of the Royalist rifles, and

the green uniform of the Royalist rifles, and one wore the insignia of a captain.

"You must excuse us, Miss Emily," said the captain, removing his cap even while holding the bridle, "but the exigencies of the service compel us to do many things which we would not do willingly. You are suspected of conveying a message from the rebel General Greene to Sumter, and you must submit to a search."

must submit to a search."

The lady looked about her in alarm. The woods were open, but they were manifestly safe from interruption. She saw that there was nothing for her but submission, and she quietly inclined her head.

"Denial upon my part would be useless, and I will not attempt it. Where will you take me, Captain Baird?"

"To my mother's house, Emily. You know that I would not willingly do any thing to offend you, but my duty is plain."

"No doubt, captain. I do not blame you, but on the contrary, I thank you for performing your duty in so delicate a manner. I assure you that you will find nothing upon my person."

"I would take your word as far as I am concerned, but, as a mere form, and in order to report to my superiors that I have done my duty, I will have my mother search you. It is known that Greene took dinner at your house yesterday, and that shortly after your mounted creened the Wetsers." at your house yesterday, and that shortly after you mounted, crossed the Wateree at

the Camden Ferry, and you are now on a direct course for Sumter's camp."

"I wish you no evil, Captain Baird, but, at the same time, I should be glad to hear his bugles. You know that I am a Whig,

"That is the first time you have spoken kindly to me for over a year, Emily Gage, " You know that I love you, and

you hate me."
"No, Robert; I do not hate you, but the cause in which you are engaged. You are joined with the hirelings of tyranny to beat down the arms of your neighbors, and to aid in riveting the chains of oppression upon them. While you uphold such a cause you can not expect love from Emily

He was silent now, and, mounting his horse, led the way at a rapid trot through the woods toward a house upon an eminence not far away. The expression of his face was downcast and sullen, and from time to time he bent a lowering look upon Em-

ily.
"Where is Angus Thurman now, Emily?" he said, as they approached the

"Where you ought to be, raising the sword in defense of his country."
"He is with Marion?"
"Yes."

"Enough; I shall meet him some day,

and when I do—"
He did not complete the sentence; but the smothered ferocity of his tone was enough to explain his meaning.

"You would not dare to meet him," cried

Emily. "He would beat you to the earth, and set his foot upon you."
"Would he so? Wait until the time"
"Would he so? Wait until the better

comes, and you shall see who is the better man—this proud rebel, Angus Thurman, or Robert Baird. You do not know me, Emily, but your eyes shall be opened

They reached the house, and Emily was placed in a room by herself, while Baird went away to find his mother to make the search. The moment the door closed be-hind him, Emily took out a paper from her bosom, and, tearing it into small pieces, swallowed it quickly, but not a moment too soon. The last bit was in her mouth when the door opened, and a hard-featured man entered, who proceeded to search for the suspected letter. Her search was in

vain, and she so reported to her son.

He came back, looking crestfallen enough, and apologized to the lady for stopping her, and led her to the door, where her horse

"You have outwitted us this time, Miss Gage, but it will not be always so. In the end I shall win."

Emily answered by a strange smile, and springing lightly into the saddle, rode away to the south. That night Sumter's troop was in motion to join Greene, and it was whispered through the camps that Emily Gage had carried the message after all, as she had committed it to memory, and Captain Baird determined to punish the family

of Gage for the act. Night on the Wateree. No sound save the sullen plunge of the terrapin, and the cry of the night-birds in the covers. A ody of men, with their weapons shining in moonlight, are crossing the river into Fairfield district. A single glance at the green coats and waving plumes is enough to identify them with the celebrated Loyal Scout, led by Robert Baird. That night the

house of Gage was in ruins, and the old man barely escaped with his life. His slaves, stock, every thing of value, had been swept away, but the celebrated plate and jewelry of the family, a fortune alone, was

not to be found.

Robert Baird was not satisfied. If he could make them utter beggars, his revenge would be complete, but, while they had this rich property hidden, they could laugh at him. He swore that he would give them no rest until the plate and jewels were in his hands

The Gage family had removed to one of the negro huts after the retreat of the Loyal Scout. They knew that they were not safe, for the Scout yet haunted the swamp, and might at any moment break out upon them. Baird had sent them a message that he would give them no rest until he had humbled the pride of Emily, and had made her

The change in their fortunes was a great one. From the grand old mansion, now in ruins, to the lowly negro-quarters was a great fall, but the sturdy spirit of the gallant old Whig enabled him to bear it.

"Greene will soon drive the Englishmen out of the High Hills," he said, "and when that is done, we will again build up the old

"Have you the means, dear father?" said Emily.

"Means? The rascals think they have stripped me bare, but I have enough for my use whenever I need it."

'Is it hidden ?" "Safely; where Baird and his thieves can never find it. Ha! I thought I heard a noise. Run to the door and look out,

She obeyed, but no one was in sight. The old man was ill at ease, and went out into the night, and looked carefully about. He knew that Baird could be an unrelenting foe, and that in his wild way he loved Emily, and hated all who aspired to her. There had been a time, before the war, when a union between the families of Baird and Gage had been seriously thought of, but the sides the families had taken in this contest had made that impossible, although Robert had clung to the hope of one day winning Emily, until he knew that the young rebel, Thurman, had taken his place

The old Whig left the house and made his way cautiously across the fields toward the High Hills at the back of the plantation. He plunged into the thick undergrowth and made his way through it for some distance, until he reached the base of the hill. Parting a thick growth of vines and creeping plants, he disclosed the entrance to a cave of some size, into which he cautiously advanced until he reached the floor of a cavern some twenty feet square. Drawing his sword, he knelt upon one knee, and thrust-ing the blade into the earth, he worked it

to and fro until it struck some metallic substance, which gave out a sharp clink.

"It is all safe," muttered the old man.

"Sooner shall Marion or Sumter be enriched by its contents, than the minions of King

"Fool!" cried a harsh voice. "We have you at last. Seize him, men, and then for the spoils."

Lights flashed on every side and revealed a score of the Loyal Scouts, their faces eager and savage under the light of the torches. The brave old Whig uttered a sharp cry and sprung up, sword in hand, and rushed desperately at the speaker, who was no other than Robert Baird. The young Tory received the thrust upon his sword-blade, parried it with ease, and the next moment Gage was struggling in the grasp of three strong men.
"We have not waited in vain, boys,"

cried the leader. "Dig here." He pointed to the spot where the sword of the prisoner had loosened the soil, and spades and mattocks were at work over the spot. Gage struggled vainly with the men who held him, while Baird looked on, laugh-

ing at his fruitless efforts.

"Better be quiet, you cursed Whig," growled one of the men. "I tell you plainy that we ought to hang you to the first tree. You deserve it."

Do; add another to the list of your base crimes. House-burners, robbers of women and children, your day of reckoning is not

"Keep quiet, father-in-law," said Baird.
"You may go so far that my influence will not be enough to save you from the swinging bough." Do your worst. I defy you.

At this moment the men digging up the soil uttered shouts of joy, and dragged out an iron-bound chest of considerable size, the lid of which was forced open, and revealed the massive plate and jewelry of the Gage family—enough to make the share of each man concerned in the robbery of great value.

Shut the chest, boys," said Baird. "Upon my honor, this is better than my hopes. Now, old beggar, am I good enough for your daughter? Can you, a penniless outcast, despise Robert Baird?"

"Ay, more than ever. I knew Robert Baird as a gallant young man, who had unfortunately taken the wrong side. I know him now as a thief. But remember, none of you shall be enriched by this theft, for I will place in Rawdon's hand a list of the contents of this chest, and if you steal a penny's worth he will call you to a dear account.

The Tories began to mutter among themselves, and some of them lifted the chest and carried it out of the cave, while others dragged Mr. Gage after. When they reached the open air he saw one of them removing a coil of rope from his saddle, with a running noose at the end. He knew his fate then, and that they designed to hang him that he might not reveal to Rawdon the secret of the chest. Robert Baird was trembling in every limb, but he knew the sanguinary character of his men well enough to believe that they would kill him if he inter-

"Get it done as soon as you can, Fletcher," he gasped. "I can't see it myself."
"You won't have long to wait," said Fletcher. "Tie him, lads."

Gage was tightly bound, a gag thrust into his mouth, and the noose adjusted about his neck. The other end of the cord was thrown over the bough of a tree.
"Up with him!" cried Fletcher, and the

body of the unfortunate man was swaying At this moment came a wild bugle-call. and the cry of "Marion's men," and a band of mounted rifles dashed up at a gallop. The Loyal Scouts sprung to their saddles and dashed away at full speed, but too late. Another party met them, and, hemmed in dressed the b'ar, an' had b'ar-no on all sides, they died game—fighting to the our Christmas dinner next day.'

last—the patriots shouting "Tarleton's quarters!" as they fell. Baird was cut down in the first rush, and when the bloody fight was over he was lying dead upon the trampled sod, cloven down by the saber of Angus Thurman. Mr. Gage had been saved, though his neck was still encircled by the cord when the man who held the near fell. though his neck was still encircled by the cord when the man who held the rope fell by a patriot saber. The old man took his danger as a warning, and his gold and jewels went into Greene's camp-chest, and were turned into steel weapons, which, in strong hands, aided to drive the invader from the shores of Carolina. When the struggle was over, Colonel Angus Thurman of Marion's brigade married the heauty of Feirfield brigade married the beauty of Fairfield, Emily Gage, and the old grandsire lived to point out to their children the spot on which he so nearly yielded up his life for the good cause.

Outwitting the Bear.

BY ARCHIE IRONS.

"You see, boys, it war the most provokin' scrape I ever got into," said Jim Bently, alluding to one of his hunting adventures.

"It war several years ago, and I war trappin' with Rant Eecols. It war comin' on celd weather, an' we built a good, com-fortable shanty, with a little fire-place in one corner, and a hole in the roof right

above to let the smoke out. above to let the smoke out.

"It war the day afore Christmas, I remember, an' we'd 'cluded to keep it in style. We had venison, an' fish, an' buffler, an' every other kind of meat I guess, 'ceptin' turkey, an' as there war lots of 'em 'round, Rant said he'd go that arternoon an' kill a couple, so 'bout noon he took his gun an' started out.

couple, so 'bout noon he took his gun an started out.

"The fire in the shanty smoked sometimes an' bothered us consider'ble, so I tho't I'd make a chimney of sticks round the hole in the top of the shanty, an' p'r'aps 'twould draw better, so I took the ax an' cut a lot of sticks, an' throwed 'em up on top of the shanty, an' then clim' up the corners an' begun ter lay 'em up.

rers an' begun ter lay 'em up.

"I'd got the thing fixed purty well, an' war thinkin' 'bout goin' down an' warmin'—for it war a mighty cold day—an' jes' as I started, I heard suthin' go scratch, scratch, in the shantr

in the shanty.

"I knew I'd left the door open, an' I thought mor'n likely it war a coon or suthin', come 'long an' smelt the vittels an' meat, an' had gone in to see what he could

"Wal, I waited a minit an' then peeked down the chimney-hole to catch a glimpse

of the varmint.

"I catched a glimpse, but it warn't a coon by a long shot, but about as big a b'ar as these ole eyes ever see, a-toastin' his shins afore the fire, an' after 'bout a minit he went to t'other side the shanty an' went to

scratchin' an' diggin' like mad.
"We'd took some pelts up to the fort awhile before, an' traded 'em for some coffie, flour an' sugar, an' had put 'em in a box in one side o' the shanty, an' that war what the b'ar war at.

"There war some meat in the box, too, an' I s'pose he smelt that, too, an' the way he war diggin' an' tearin' warn't slow. I knew he'd tear it to pices in a minit, an' when he did, the flour an' stuff would be tumbled round the shanty purty quick. I thought of the coffie an' sugar, too, an' that made me so affired mad, that I 'gun ter holler like all possess, an' tole him he'd better git out of that, or I'd fix him.

"He looked up when I begun to holler, an' as soon's he see'd me he give a growl, an' went on tearin' at the box.

"I 'membered I'd left the ax right by the shanty door, an' thinks I, I'll go down an' git it, an', if he don't see me, I'll git my gun, which I knowed hung in the shanty close to the door.

"I run along the roof of the shanty, an' war goin' to jump off when, darn me if thar warn't 'nother b'ar on the outside of the shanty. He see'd me as soon as I did him, an, 'gun ter growl, an' raise himself on his hind legs, an' show his teeth, in a way that warn't pleasant I can tell ye. I thought maybe I could git down on the other side of the shanty, but the minit I tried it, that darned b'ar war around thar in jist no time at all. I walked round the shanty an' tried it in three or four different places, but it warn't no go; that darned b'ar would foller every step I took, an' he kept right 'round that shanty an' me, do what I would.

"I tell ye what, boys, it war 'nough ter make a deacon swaar, an' I warn't any better'n a deacon, an' the way I swore at that b'ar on the ground oughter 'stonished him,

but it didn't. "I hollered, an' hooted, an' called him all the names I could think on, an' then commenced throwin' the chimney sticks at him, when I jest happened ter think that I'd better throw 'em at the b'ar inside, so I jest pulled 'em all down from the chimney an' layin' down on the roof, peeked through

the chimney-hole at him.
"He'd got the box open, an' had got out a piece of meat, an' was settin' afore the

fire eatin' it, big as life. "He see'd me when I peeked over, an' growled, as much as to say, I'd better let him alone, an' then kept on eatin'.

"At that I 'gan ter throw the sticks at him, but the darned varmint jest walked to the other side the shanty where I couldn't reach him; but I was bound to sarcumvent him somehow, so I took one of the largest sticks I could find, an' went to the end of the shanty over the door, an' reachin' down the stick, I catched it on the top of the door, an' pulled it shet.

"I went back to the chimney then, an' dropped the stick down on the fire in the shanty. I put down 'nough of the sticks to make a purty good fire, an' as soon as I see'd it was goin' to burn good, I took the rest of the sticks an' jest covered over the chimney-hole so that any smoke couldn't "After I'd fixed it, I set down on top of

the shanty.
"I hadn't waited long 'fore I heard the b'ar in the shanty trampin' round, an' purty soon he begun ter snort, an' I heard him makin' a deuce of a racket. I thought the shanty mus' be comin' down, when crash went suthin' that shook the whole shanty. I jumped up an' saw jest what I expected to—the b'ar that was in the shauty had broke the door down, an' was goin' fer the woods as ef the Old Nick war after him. T'other b'ar, seein' that one run, took after it, an' I jumped down off the shanty, an' got my gun, an' shot him as he war goin inter the woods. Jest then Rant come with a couple of turkeys, an' after dinner we dressed the b'ar, an' had b'ar-meat to add to

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MY BEAUTY

BY GEORGE.

At morn, at poon, she trod the lane,
At night the meadows bore her;
Among the dusies soft she moved,
While shone the round sun o'er her;
And when still evening quiet came,
And wrapped the earth in slumber,
I watched her with my longing eyes
Pass 'neath the growing lumber;

Ah! I was young, and older she,
But age I little thought of;
Where admiration strongly rules.
We think a few years naught of.
She should be mine—she must be mine,
I, only, in the place
Gave to her advantion

Gave to her adoration,
And called her movements grace How dainty was her every step!

How dainty was ner every step:
How gently did she move!
I saw a beauty in her pace
That moved my heart to love;
Her kindly eyes, like fairy dream,
Looked out beyond this earth,
And oh, their sad expression
Whispered of angel-birth!

Weeks, months fled by: one sunny day
I called her all my own,
And with my arm around her neck
I led her to my home;
The gate was closed—I led her through
As slow she came behind;
But here she run against the post—
Ye gods! the mare was blind!

The Main Truck. A SAILOR'S STORY.

BY LAUNCE POYNTZ.

To while away the time when one is weary of monotony, what will not man do? He'll peril his life against all the beasts of the field and the monsters of the deep, and, failing those, will risk life and limb to exhibit the strength God gave him to use for good, in some foolhardy piece of daring for fools to gape at.

You know, boys, that when we're young we're full of strength, and most of us fond of gymnastic feats. The desire for such is a wise gift implanted in us to encourage us to exercise, for without exercise the muscles become soft and flabby, and we are unable to defend ourselves in times of danger. Moreover, exercise is the first necessity of health, and without the one we lose the

But exercise, like other good things, may be carried to excess, and a man too vain of bodily prowess very often comes to grief, besides involving others in danger, and may come to owe his life to those he despises as weaker than himself.

I've been a sailor all my life and therefore used to hard work, peril, and trials of nerve; but I never could see the sense of risking life and limb to gain empty applause, and I'll tell you a story that will show you how the smartest gymnast may attempt too much.

A good many years ago I commanded the clipper ship Typhoon, in the trade from York to China. One summer we had made a splendid voyage, without striking skysails or sternsails all the way from New York to the Cape, and we were bowling across the Indian Ocean, a thousand miles east of the Mauritius, before we met any

heavy weather. I had a number of passengers aboard, and several ladies, who found the time pass pretty slowly, but they were all easy to manage except one party. This was composed of three young men—two of them brothers, and sons of the head of our house, Grant, Perkins and Company. The two young Grants, like many other rich men's sons, were year conceited—the more per sons, were very conceited—the more, per-haps, because they'd never done a stroke of work in their lives—and they were always up to some mischief or other, till once I had

didn't obey the rules of the ship.

After that they left off skylarking, but turned sulky and made a good many dinners uncomfortable by covert sneers which

Their companion was an army officer, on a year's leave, of the name of Ramsey, a noble young fellow as ever I saw, but full of high spirits. He was a man of very great personal strength and agility, and could beat any sailor in the ship climbing.

You must know that it's an old sea custom that the first time a landsman goes up the rigging, any of the sailors can go after him, and if they can catch him they can tie him there unless he "pays his footing," as they term it. But none of our fellows could catch Ramsey. I have known him scainper up the shrouds like a monkey and defy them all to catch him, when the whole ship's company would come swarming after him. He went up the mizzen-mast one time, and they thought they had him sure, but the active fellow, seeing that every backstay was occupied by the enemy, slid down the mizzen royal stay to the main, and then up again, down the main royal stay to the foretop gallant cross-trees, and so down the jib-stay to the end of the jib-boom, and ran

The two Grants were always setting Ramsey up to mischief of some kind, and especially when the ladies were on deck. A sneer at his not daring to do such and such a thing would always send Ramsey to do it. One day, however, they pressed him too far, and the result was I had to stop all skylarking in the rigging.

larking in the rigging. It had begun to blow a pretty stiff breeze at last, rapidly becoming a gale, when we had to send down our sternsails and skysails, and it was as much as the ship would bear to keep her royals spread. We were all gathered on the poop-deck, watching the flying-fish and dolphins, when Charley Grant, the elder of my two pests, observed:

"Say, Captain Coffin, do you think you've

royal yards to-day?" 'Any one in the ship would, if I ordered him, young gentleman," I said. "But I would only send old sailors to-day. It takes a man who knews how to held on to furl

got a man would dare to go up above the

rovals on a day like this. 'Bah, captain," said Tom Grant, the other brother, sneeringly. "It's not half as bad as you make out. There's Ramsey, who never was at sea in his life, and I'll bet he can go up to the main truck in a ty-phoon, leaving alone a breeze like this."

"You sailors are a set of old grannies, anyhow," chimed in Charley. "I'll bet Ramsey can go to the main truck to-day." Indeed, and Ramsey isn't going break his neck for you" retorted the young officer, laughing good-naturedly. "I'm tired of fooling about the rigging to

amuse you lazy people down on deck."
"Quite right, Mr. Ramsey," said I, You're a splendid gymnast, but I don't like to see you risking your life for nothing. When I send the men up, it's on duty, and if they lose their lives, it can't be

"Bah!" sneered ill-conditioned Tom. Ramsey's turning prudent."
"Well, suppose I am? Isn't it time?"

asked Ramsey. "Too prudent by half," said Charley.

"He daren't go."

"I dare go anywhere," said Ramsey, flushing; "but I don't care to go. Go

"I'm not a famous gymnast," said Charley, sneering. "I see you're only a fine-weather one, too, for all your blowing."

Well, you see, words went on, till young Ramsey was fool enough to declare that not only would he go up to the royals, but that he would shin up the skypoles above, perfectly bare of rigging as they were, and take a seat on the main truck. I knew him to be a perfect gymnast, or I would have oveleved him post to do it, but I never ordered him not to do it; but I never thought that he would go higher than the royals, for the vessel was pitching and tossing so, that I expected he would see the impossibility of the feat when he got to the

royal yard.

Well, to make a long story short, Ramsey threw off his coat and began to ascend the weather rigging, several of the ladies clapping their hands to encourage him, while only one was silent. This was Miss Emily Parking daughter of our of our Emily Perkins, daughter of one of our house, who was going to Canton to see her father. I noticed that she was very pale. as he went higher, and two or three times I was on the point of calling Mr. Ramsey back; but he seemed to go up so confident-

ly that I lost much of my own fears.

In fact, so long as a man is in the rigging. t is easier work to climb at sea than when lying still in port, for, the vessel being always keeled over on one tack or the other, the weather rigging always offers an easy

So that Ramsey's task was easy enough till he got to the cross-trees. After that there are no ratlines in most vessels, so that man has to shin up the ropes; and besides this, the masts were swaving about in dizzy circles, the wind seeming to increase every moment. Before Ramsey got to the main royal yard, away went his hat to leeward, into the sea, amid the ironical cheers of the whole ship's company, who were clustered when on several occasions, while hunting

Recollections of the West.

Old Willoughby and the Robbers.

BY CAPT. BRUIN ADAMS.

"YES, that is Old Willoughby's grave," said my host, in reply to a question of mine.
"He died only last year; and, although he was several years older than I am—and you know, lad, that I am no youngster—yet he was the most active man of the two, and, as I thought, far healthier and stronger.

"Willoughby was a wonderful man; he had been my father's servant—his 'bodyguard' he used to call him—and never did stroke of work save to wait upon, look after and make him comfortable.

When the old man died, Willoughby took me in hand, assuming precisely the same relation to me that he had always borne to him, and absolutely declining permit any one, no matter who, the privi-lege of meddling with my affairs. I mean those appertaining to my personal comfort

'In all my journeys-and they were frequently long, tedious, and sometimes dangerous—Willoughby accompanied me, and after a while he came to be just as well known, and fully as much respected in the circuit, as I was myself.

"There comes Willoughby and the Judge,' used to be the remark as we would ride into town; and I sometimes thought the sly fellow hugely enjoyed the manner in which we were classified.

"We were both getting well on in years when I came to this place to live. "I had long had my eye upon the farm, liking the location, the surrounding scenery, the river, and that wild range of hills that you see looming up across yonder; though, I think, if I had known what those same hills contained, the kind of fruit they bore, if I may use such an expression, I don't believe I'd have been so eager to settle

down in such close proximity.
"From the very first Willoughby regard-

necessary in regulating our movements

"Any unusual commotion or haste would certainly betray the fact that we knew of the contemplated attack, and as I wished, above all things, to give these fellows a good, lasting lesson, this was to be avoided

as much as possible.
"Three of the steadlest and most trusted of the men were sent in as many different directions to inform the neighbors of what was on hand, while Willoughby and myself looked after getting the house in order to receive our nocturnal visitors, and also to

load and 'fix up' generally such arms as were about the place.

"There were two double-barrels, an old flint-locked musket, a pair of heavy 'horse' pistols, and my favorite rifle; a pretty good arsenal for an emergency.

'Shortly after dark my friends began to

drop in, one at a time, and from different directions, so as to avoid notice.

"When all were assembled, at between nine and ten o'clock, I counted, or 'reviewed' the army, and found it to consist of five able-bodied men, each bearing his own rifle, besides myself, Willoughby and half a dozen

"'More than enough,' I mentally exclaimed, as I ran my eye over the assemblage, but I did not then know the kind of men with whom we were to come in conflict.

"Eleven, twelve, and one o'clock passed,

and there had as yet been no signs of the I have neglected to state what manner of castle it was that we were collected to defend, and as it is necessary for the full understanding of what transpired that II

should do so, I must ask your patience "My house was what is known as double log-cabin, different, however, from the generality of such in the fact that it was two and a half stories high, and un-

usually high stories at that.
"Tall ceilings, plenty of ventilation, etc., were my hobby, and in building I had given

free scope to it."
"Through the center of the building ran a wide hall, at each end of which swung large, heavy folding-doors, the only en-

I forgot to mention that once, during the fiercest part of the attack upon the door, a sudden scuffling of feet, and what appeared to be a fall, was heard overhead, but every one supposing that it was some one else of our party watching from the upper windows, took no heed of the inci-

"In fifteen minutes the robbers were again ready for assault, this time to make it by means of fire.

"They had gone off to the barn, dragged out a large wagon from its shed, and having loaded this with dry hay from the loft,

were pushing it toward the house.

"Their intention was only too evident.

"Sheltered by the mass of hay, they could with impunity advance it near enough to the house, in fact, against it, so that when it was fired, the building would be certain to eath. be certain to catch.

"We used our guns pretty lively, you may rest assured, but still the wagon and its combustible load advanced steadily, and ere long a loud bump, accompanied by a jar, told us that the firebrand was in position.

"A bright light flashed up as one of the villains struck his tinder, when, suddenly, a loud, clear voice rung out, coming from

a loud, clear voice rung out, coming from somewhere up above:

"Stop dar! You jess sot dat hay afire, an', by de Lordy, I'll flung him into um!"

"A loud shout of surprise, or rather dismay, from the party outside followed these words, that I knew could have been uttered only by Willoughby, and anxious to know what it was he was threatening them with, I was any stairs to the second floor, and fail-I ran up-stairs to the second floor, and fail-

ing to find the faithful fellow there, I continued on up to the garret.

"At the further end of the long, low apartment I saw the figure of a man darkening the window, beyond which the ruddy glare of the now brightly-burning torch be-

low could be seen.
"As I drew near, I saw it was Willough-"As I drew near, I saw it was Willoughby, and, moreover, that he held, half-out of the narrow aperture, the struggling form of a man, who, on further inspection, I saw was securely bound. At the same instant I heard the exclamation, 'It is the capt'in, by —!' from below.

"'Yes, it am, an' dess sartin as you fires dat hay, I'll drap him onto it!' shouted back Willoughby.

"'How in the name of wonder did you

back Willoughby.

"'How in the name of wonder did you get that man?' I asked.

"'He done clomb up heah, Mass' Harrison, an' I jess grab him an' trow de ladder down,' was the reply.

"Such had been the case.

"Willoughby had heard them with the ladder, at the end of the building, and, slipping off, he went up to intercept them at the attic window.

"The result was as he had stated, and as good luck would have it, the first and only

one who had entered was the captain of the band. The falling of the ladder was con-sidered accidental, and until Willoughby appeared at the window with his captive, the robbers had thought that he was safe inside, planning or working a way by which they might enter. Well, this finished up the matter. "Of course the captain forbade any further attack, stipulating that he would order

his men off, and promising never to attack me again, if he were permitted to go free. We could do nothing else, and finally it was agreed that we should hold him until morning, while his men should withdraw This was done, and at daylight the fel-

low was turned loose, and he struck out for the hills without waste of time, I assure you. "Singular to say, he kept his word, and I was never again molested by them."

Beat Time's Notes.

THE NEW CURE.

Dr. Apoth E. Cary's renowned Extract will accomplish every thing from the raising of the dead to the removing of dandruff. People must not confound it with other humbugs if they confound it at all.

It is good for all complaints. A correspondent of the Bungtown Roarer writes that he has suffered for years from his wife's complaints of having to wear her old dresses so long, etc.; two bottles of it had the effect of making her perfectly contented with her old dresses, and added fifty subscribers to

their paper list, A man who had the bronchitis in the ankle and the red swelling on the nose, said that he had tried many doctors, as he thought a small bill with a good many doctors was better than a good many bills with one doctor, but got no relief until he took

Another writes that he has taken the Extract for the last seven years—in all, about a barrel of it—and was effectually relieved of a corn. And another thing of no trifling consequence in this case is that the man is seven years older than he was when he be-

An auctioneer hastens to say that he couldn't lie down at night for three years; now he lies all the time.

No family should be without. A Royal Arch Mason and Bricklayer writes that he has kept house with it and one old table for several years.

One young lady went off in the first stages of consumption; she afterward took one bottle of the Extract and was able to walk back, and is now open for engagements as champion eatist.

A lade had a violent county

A lady had a violent cough; she used the Extract, and her friends insinuate that the cough is completely gone—so is she.

A landlord had weak coffee. Some of
the boarders rubbed the Extract on the back of the coffee-pot, and the effect is that the

coffee is now strong and robust.

A farmer states that his son got very bad -in fact, he was the worst boy he ever saw; his language also got very low. The Extract was applied to his back and rubbed in with

a cow-hide. The boy improves.

An engineer had the affection of the brain for many years. It gave him constant pain. One bottle of the Extract removed the brain,

and he is now able to run for Congress.

One man states that he couldn't eat more than four solid meals, with lunches, a day; nor sleep more than all night and part of the afternoon; one bottle restored him.

It gave an entire new constitution to one of the Southern States.

Five bottles in a package. You can take it in broken or unbroken doses—that is, with or without breaking the package. You go to the forks of the road and look at

the guide-board for directions.
Two barrels of it have been known to remove a pimple on the nose.

No money required until the medicine is

BEAT TIME, Agent.

Ramsey reached the royal yard safely, and rested there for a few minutes. He seemed to be tired, as well he might, for the swaving of the vessel rendered it a hard thing to hold on. I saw, however, that he was going higher.

Come down, Ramsey!" I shouted. 'Don't make a fool of yourself, or you'll be drowned.'

But he only shook his head, and turning to the bare, naked skypole beside him, commenced the ascent. Certainly he climbed splendidly, but I saw that he was very much tired. He kept on the weather side of the mast and got up the first eight feet very well, when the vessel gave a tremendous lurch that sent the main truck waving backward and forward in oscillations of seventy or eighty feet at a swing. The strain became too much for human strength, and a groan escaped from the whole ship's company as the poor fellow was swung round on the under side of the mast, lost the grasp of his legs, and remained, clinging desperately with his hands, swinging over the angry sea, less than a yard below the truck.

Every eye in the ship was riveted on him with intense suspense, even the helmsman's. It was this that caused the accident. The steersman, in his excitement, had allowed the vessel to luff up into the wind, and her sails were all shaking, while the heavy sea made her pitch terribly.

'Keep her full, you sir!" I bellowed to the helmsman, but it was too late. As the sails filled again, the ship bowed over with a great surge, and the next minute Ramsey lost his hold and fell into the sea.

Then there was a noise, I tell you-women screaming, men shouting, Miss Perkins in hysterics, the sails thundering and flapping as the helmsman—this time by my order-threw the vessel into the wind. Ramsey come up, and threw him the life-buoy just in time, and then a great wave hid him from our sight. We got out a boat as quick as we could, but it was half an hour before we got him in, nearly exhausted, and it cost the boat another hour's pulling to get to the ship.

After that adventure I interdicted skylarking in the rigging, and even wild Ram-sey never again repeated the experiment of reaching the MAIN TRUCK.

THE following is a verbatim report of a conversation which recently took place between a father and his model child Father—"My son, which would you rather do-learn a hymn or eat a bun?" Model son (who has been questioned before)—"Father, I would rather learn a hymn." Father-"Then, my son, you shall have two buns.

below and looking up in amazement at the rash fellow.

On them, he had met strange, rough-looking men, always armed to the teeth, prowling about, he declared that there was danger shutters, which, together with the doors, lurking, and that some morning we would all get up with our throats cut or the house burning overhead.

THE MAIN TRUCK,

"This led me to inquire, and I found that he at least had some ground for his fears.

"Like all of his race, Willoughby fond—I may use a stronger term and say passionately devoted—to the pursuit of the possum, and in season there was scarcely ever a favorable night that did not find him and his well-trained dog, Furi, out in the forest, trailing and treeing that much sought for and highly prized animal.

"Early one morning I was awakened by

a soft knock at my chamber door, and Willoughby, with the burrs still clinging to his linsey-woolseys, and a face upon which rested a mysterious expression, entered, walked to the bedside, and asked 'if he I told him he might, and he then pro-

ceeded to unfold the secret of his early "It seemed that he had been out in the hills the previous night 'possum-hunting, and while so engaged he had struck the trail of and followed a totally different kind of game than that he had come out for.

While resting in a dark ravine, to give the dog an opportunity of ranging the im-mediate neighborhood, he heard the sound of voices close at hand, and cautiously creeping in the direction indicated, he came upon a camp of half a dozen individuals clustered around some smoldering brands that lay in the mouth of a small cave, or

Recollecting his former suspicions, as well as what he had heard whispered about the neighborhood, he laid down behind a bush and prepared to avail himself of a chance too good to be thrown away.

hole, in the side of a hill.

"He was more than repaid for the risk he ran, for he overheard in full, with all the particulars of the plan of action, a plot to rob, and, if necessary, murder me and all the inmates of the house

"'I done tole you so, Mars' Harrison,' he concluded, 'an' if we manage um right, we'll dess kotch de whole gang. "'When are they coming, Willoughby?' I asked, getting out of bed and dressing

"'Dis berry night, an' we ain't more'n got de time to send fur de neighbors,' was

"I knew that this was no false alarm, for a cooler head or braver heart than Willough by possessed was not to be found, and so I gave the intelligence just as much consideration as though I had myself overheard

"Fearful of being watched, in fact, almost self, sure that we were, the greatest caution was him.

were likewise protected by thick oaken shutters, which, together with the doors, were securely fastened by stout bars. "About two o'clock the dogs began to evince signs of uneasiness, and pretty soon

the whole of them had given tongue in

such a manner as to unmistakably show that something unusual was going on out-'In the hight of the din the sharp crack of a rifle was heard, instantly followed by the yelp of a dog, and I knew that one of my favorites had departed for the canine

hunting-grounds. "Still we inside made no sign, and the robbers, thinking that there was a clear field before them, rushed out of the timber and rapidly deployed so as to surround the

". Then came a knock at the door, with a demand to open, which, I need hardly say, was unneticed. Again and again was the demand

made, and meeting no response—for every one, by instruction, was profoundly quiet axes were procured, and the assault began This was what we were waiting forcidedly an overt act, you see—and before half a dozen blows had been struck, as many rifles, from different positions, poured in a close and deadly fire.

"Three or four of the fellows dropped, but instead of deterring the others, it rather seemed to infuriate and render them the more desperate and determined. The sound of the firing brought the entire force in front of the building, and you may imagine my surprise, and I may as well add, dismay, when I found there were not less than twenty or five and twenty of the villains assembled.

It began to look serious, decidedly so, for I knew if they failed to break in the door, they would not hesitate to fire the

"Once or twice, during the foregoing events, I had looked around for Willoughby, but he was not to be seen. I knew, however, that he was in the right place, wherever he was, and the sequel proved that I was right. "By crowding close against the building, the assailants, in a great measure, were enabled to escape our fire; but still, every now and then, a fellow who would forget himself, and venture too far out, would fall

before the rifle of some watchful marksman within the house. The door withstood the assault bravely, and finally, after a short parley among themselves, the assailants withdrew to cover, leaving word, however, that they

would assuredly burn us out unless we sur "Still Willoughby had not shown himself, nor had any one that I asked seen